

**Biographical Directory
of the
United States Congress****1774 - Present**

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KEITH, Hastings, (1915 - 2005)

KEITH, Hastings, a Representative from Massachusetts; born in Brockton, Plymouth County, Mass., November 22, 1915; graduated from Brockton High School, Deerfield Academy, and the University of Vermont at Burlington in 1938; graduate work at Harvard University in 1938; member of the faculty of the Boston University Evening College of Commerce in 1948 and 1949; in 1933 was a student in the Citizens Military Training Camps; served as battery officer in Massachusetts National Guard; during the Second World War served in the United States Army with eighteen months overseas service in Europe; graduate of the Command and General Staff School; colonel in the Army Reserve; salesman and later district manager for the Equitable Life Assurance Society in Boston, Mass., 1946-1952; member of the State senate 1953-1956; partner in a general insurance firm, Brockton, Mass., 1946-1984; unsuccessful candidate for the Republican nomination for Congress in 1956; elected as a Republican to the Eighty-sixth and to the six succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1959-January 3, 1973); was not a candidate for reelection in 1972 to the Ninety-third Congress; was a candidate for nomination in 1992 to the One Hundred Third Congress until he withdrew from the race; died on July 19, 2005, in Brockton, Mass.

Biographical Directory
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United States Congress



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KEITH, Hastings, 1915-2005

Guide to Research Collections

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Oral History: Transcript in the Oral History Collection of the Association of Former Members of Congress.

Restricted. Sound recording in the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division.




**Biographical Directory
of the
United States Congress**
1774 - Present

Click Member Name to view Biography

Member Name	Birth-Death	Position	Party	State	Congress (Year)
KEITH, Hastings	1915-2005	Representative	Republican	MA	86 (1959-1960)
		Representative	Republican	MA	87 (1961-1962)
		Representative	Republican	MA	88 (1963-1964)
		Representative	Republican	MA	89 (1965-1966)
		Representative	Republican	MA	90 (1967-1968)
		Representative	Republican	MA	91 (1969-1970)
		Representative	Republican	MA	92 (1971-1972)

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CONGRESSMAN HASTINGS KEITH: PRIMARY FACTS

AGE: 54 (AVERAGE AGE OF ALL IN CONGRESS 55.2)

BEFORE CONGRESS:

Military: Colonel, U.S.A.R. (ret.); Overseas WW II vet.;
assigned to Eisenhower's staff.

Business: Chartered Life Underwriter; Senior partner,
Roger Keith & Sons, Gen'l. Ins. Agency.

State Senate: Elected in 1952; re-elected in 1954 with plurality
twice that of '52: CHAIRMAN of both Mercantile Affairs
and Election Laws Committee; Member, Committees on
Military Affairs, Harbors and Public Lands, Banks and
Banking, Education, Towns and Water Supply.

LEGISLATIVE: Initiated 32 pieces of legislation--16
of which became law. Notable among KEITH'S Accomplish-
ments:

..Back Bay Yards in Boston saved for the Prudential
Center.

..Fake charity drives outlawed.

..Abolished war years rent-controls.

..KEITH bill extended mortgage benefits to Korean vets.

..Authored more equitable tax laws for small businesses.

..First legislation for elderly housing.

..First true codification of Zoning and Planning Laws.

..Reforms in Welfare programs permitting increased bene-
fits and lower taxes.

CONGRESS:

Elected in 1958, currently serving SIXTH consecutive term.

Committee on Interstate & Foreign Commerce

4th of 16 Republicans in seniority

Committee on Merchant Marine & Fisheries

5th of 16 Republicans in seniority

Commerce & Finance Subcommittee

RANKING REPUBLICAN

Coast Guard & Navigation Subcommittee

RANKING REPUBLICAN

Fish & Wildlife Subcommittee

2nd RANKING REPUBLICAN

Oceanography Subcommittee

3rd RANKING REPUBLICAN

Committee on Committees--selects Committee assignments for all
Republican Members of Congress

LEGISLATIVE MILESTONES:

- ..The Council on Environmental Quality--modeled upon the Council of Economic Advisors to act as a "watchdog" over the environment and advise the President and the Congress. Provides for an annual "State of the Environment" address by the President to the Congress.
- .."PEACE WITH JUSTICE IN VIETNAM" resolution endorsing the Nixon program of Vietnamization, troop withdrawal and honorable settlement of the war.
- ..Assisting in nearly a BILLION dollars to the 12th District from the Federal government - more per capita than most any other congressional district.
- ..The Cape Cod National Seashore--constituting a federal outlay of \$33.5 million to preserve the beauty and resources of Cape Cod.
- ..Passage of the 12-mile fishing limit--protecting the industry.
- ..Creation of the Department of Transportation--a major role in a better future to make travel safer, easier and faster.
- ..Sea Grant College Act--fills a major need for education of oceanographers and marine researchers. Provides training and information centers for fishermen.
- ..The President's Maritime Program--revitalizing the Merchant Marine fleet with 300 new vessels within the next 10 years.
- ..Creation of the New England Regional Development Commission.
- ..Establishment of the Commission on Population Growth and the American Future.
- ..House Passage of the Independent Maritime Administration proposal.
- ..The Endangered Species Act--protecting certain species from extinction.
- ..The Anadromous Fish Act and Estuarine Areas Act--both to protect and foster our fisheries resources and development.
- ..Passage of the Continental Shelf Act--establishing our national right to these vast resources.

AT THE POLLS:

- ..KEITH first won election to Congress in 1958 by 14,000 votes.
- ..In 1960, he was re-elected by 23,000 votes--almost twice that of '58.
- ..The Congressman won his third term in '62 by over 47,000 votes.
- ..In 1964--when Lyndon Johnson's coattails swept Democrats named "Joe" into office--KEITH held his seat by over 37,000 votes.
- ..In 1966, KEITH withstood the final challenge of the District's best-known and best-financed Democrat, Mayor Ed Harrington of New Bedford, by almost 20,000 votes.
- ..After the Harrington defeat, the opposition stopped trying and in 1968--KEITH was un-opposed. He received over 173,000 votes or 78% of the total--nearly four of every five votes. This most recent KEITH performance at the polls is particularly significant. Other un-contested Massachusetts Congressmen with much smaller constituencies were unable to come even close to KEITH's percentage of voter support - 78%. Further, Nationally, of the 435 Congressional seats up for election in 1968, KEITH was 1 of 8 Republicans to run un-opposed.

THINGS DONE

FOR DISTRICT

Charlie-some notes & I made on the plane coming up about things Keith has done for the district in the past 6 years... you may want to look them over for use in connection with your book...

NATIONAL SEASHORE - sponsored bill, worked for legislation most compatible to interests of the cape and the nation, stressed conservation as opposed to recreation aspects of project

Cranberries - helped industry get \$10 million indemnity program in 1959-60 after destruction of market by cancer scare.

helped promote greater use of cranberries by gov't purchasing agencies, military, va hosp., etc.

promoted cranberries as a product by having special luncheon for colleagues in congress

continues to promote the industry in washington office with cooler, etc.

Scallop Market - like cranberries, scallops hit a market low and were helped by cong. keith - who got the government to publicize their availability and economic cost in food and agriculture bulletins...encouraged military services to buy more scallops

Vessel Subsidy - In first term as member of Merchant Marine and Fisheries committee and the sub. on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation, Keith was a leading proponent & in the House for the recently-enacted legislation that provides a \$50 million construction aid program...New Bedford, Plymouth, Sandwich, Chatham, P-Town and perhaps Marshfield will all benefit with more jobs through construction of new and more modern trawlers and scallopers.

Fisheries Research - Keith worked in committee to get approval of this matching fund program (PL 88-309) to promote badly needed fisheries research and ~~construction~~ development. absence of r&d in this industry has been major drawback. New program means \$1.5 in federal funds over the next five years for Massachusetts alone. (in addition to existing research aid programs, like the Saltonstall Kennedy act.)

Northeast Airlines - Keith went to bat for this beleaguered Massachusetts employer when many other NE'landers were reluctant to get involved. Keith filed a bill and made speeches on the floor and worked in committee to get CAB reconsideration - actions which have been vindicated by recent court decisions.

Oceanography - one of the most-promising industries in the 12th District.. and a growing employer of 12th dist. residents. Keith worked to get on the key Oceanography Subcommittee and has cultivated & leading officials in this area... Has twice sponsored legislation calling for a more coordinated approach to our National Oceanography Program and is the sole sponsor in the House of a special bill designed to encourage more efficient use of oceanographic research vessels, by freeing them of outdated and unnecessary inspection regulations designed for commercial cargo and passenger vessels.

Oceanography continued - is working with and encouraging I.C.O.
(interagency committee on oceanography) in its
desire to conduct a nationwide conference on
oceanography education in the secondary schools.
Keith's district will be the site of this
national meeting (Woods Hole) which will be attended
by state educational officials from all 50 states
and by ~~many~~ leading oceanographers. First of ~~this~~
its kind, this conference (probably in April) will
be intended to induce educators to include intro-
ductory and basic oceanography course in high school
programs.

2
Surplus Fish under
Food ~~for~~ for Peace
Program

Keith worked for passage of this important amendment
to the food for peace program (PL480), which permits
the designation of fisheries products as "surplus
agricultural commodities" and therefore will allow
for the sale of surplus fish through government aid
programs.

Fish Protein Concentrate - Keith has led the fight in the ~~the~~ House of
Representatives for nearly four years to get FDA
clearance of this remarkable new food product, which
would be a boon to the fishing industry (new industry
for New Bedford) and could make a sizable contribution
to the success of our overseas aid programs...

Helped focus national attention on FPC, filed bill
and got hearings in the House...

supported \$560,000 research program now underway
in Bureau of Commercial Fisheries labs. to perfect
manufacturing tech, etc. and overcome FDA objections.
These findings will be made available to private
industry.

NEW BEDFORD

HK worked extensively with the City officials for:

Hurricane Dike authorization and ~~the~~ necessary
appropriations

to get wider by-pass channel during construction

Worked to get better weathercasting service for the
fishing ~~g~~ fleet...held special meeting with top
officials of the Weather Bu., Coast Guard, BuComFish
Air Force...followed by specific program of improvements
west

meeting in Moscow to ~~the~~ talk with Russians about problems
created by their gear on the fishing banks (floating nets,
abandoned gear) which had been fouling shafts and props
of American trawlers and costing owners much time and
money for repairs. Russians agreed to install radar refl-
ectors on nets and otherwise take care...

HK has worked continuously to help New Bedford

obtain grants and loans under various Fed. programs for industrial development and community facilities, including ARA and Urban Renewal programs.

Working now, for example, with fed. agencies to help N.B. finance acquisition of new beach property in south end...(Open Space Land Act)

New Bedford Industry - Keith worked for and supported Wheat-Cotton Bill favored by N.B. textile industry... (while under considerable pressure from party to reject this proposal)

Supported Housing Act of 1964 - (N.B. Urban Renewal development tied to this bill)

Went to work for and testified in behalf of new legislation to expand and improve Junior ROTC program (N.B. High School), when McNamara wanted to drop it...HK believes program of value in character development and encouraging youth who are interested to seek careers in military...

Sponsored bill in the House HR 8296- that for the first time in history provides adequate sanctions against intruding foreign fishing expeditions. Prompted by invasion of Red trawler off Cape Cod and Nantucket (as well as Florida and Alaska this bill provides for penalties of up to \$10,000, a year in jail and confiscation of the vessel, catch and gear... Passed both houses with enthusiastic support (PL 88-308)

Also lats ~~xxxx~~ statutory claim to certain resources of the continental shelf, a precedent - setting action that could do for the fishing industry what the Submerged Lands Act has done to safeguard U.S. oil and mineral resources in offshore areas.

Plymouth - helped Plymouth get authorization for long-awaited harbor improvement project...(\$1.8 Million), and dredging project this summer (\$185,000) to maintain present channels...

On his personal appeal to the Approp. Subcommittee on PWorks, HK got a \$35,000 appropriations to provide for advance engineering of the improvement project after the Administration dropped it from the budget (Bu of KB Budget) unexpentedly and without warning...in an economy drive.

Similarly, he has helped other towns and the City of N. Bedford with rivers and harbors projects in dealings with the Corps of Engineers and with the

committees of Congress: P-town Harbor improvement
Stage Harbor

Oak Bluffs - Eel Pond (Falmouth), Harwich Marina
Sandwich boat basin - Hyannis Harbor (dredging) Woods
Hole, Cuttyhunk - Edgartown - Green Harbor - Pleasant
Bay, Wareham-Marion Dike (though local interests now
cooled to project) Nantucket Harbor, Cohasset,
Crescent Beach - Nantasket beach, Bourne and Sagamore
Bridge repairs (helped expedite work and insure
that scheduling of work would not disrupt traffic
unduly)

Helped -

Wareham
Bourne
Plymouth,
Plympton
Kingston
Truro

P-town obtain Labor Dept. studies that led to ultimate ~~via~~ designation of ~~x~~ these areas as "redevelopment areas" and thereby enable them to qualify for ARA programs

Helped many ~~xx~~ towns (Kingston, E.Bridge, Hanover, etc.) apply for ~~xxx~~ aid under new Library Services and construction act.

Got ~~x~~ free military transportation for New Bedford group to fly clothing to victims of St. Jorge earthquake

got bands for Madeirian Festival on several occasions

got Portuguese full-rigged sailing ~~xxxx~~ vessel to call on Port of N.Bedford during visit to world's fair.

Helped win passage of bill restoring medical benefits to owners of fishing vessels (crews already covered by law granting fishermen benefits of Marine Hospitals run by U.S. Publ. health service.)

Worked for bill, which ~~ap~~ passed house this session, that would initiate program to protect and enhance nation's anadromous fish resources...(herring, Atlantic salmon, etc.) ~~xxxx~~ Nearly every town in 12th dist. has potential herring run - these fish, once economically important in New England, have all but disappeared ~~by~~

because of impact of civilization...

~~xxxx~~

Helped towns get navigational aids.... lighted bell buoy for Westport harbor after local board had been unable to get ~~k~~ such a buoy

Boy for Nye's Ledge in Mattapoisett at request of boating interests

Helped towns get surplus ~~xx~~ military equipment, such as jeep for Mattapoisett C.D., motorwhale boat for Dartmouth Sea Scouts..

Worked with insurance industry to focus ~~xxxxxx~~ attention on problem of near-prohibitive costs of hull and p & i insurance ~~for~~ fishing industry

Worked extensively with area chambers of commerce - helped Plymouth CofC promote National Thanksgiving Dinner proposal with letter to President, for example, signed by every members of the Mass. delegation. Cape Cod Chamber on many occasions.

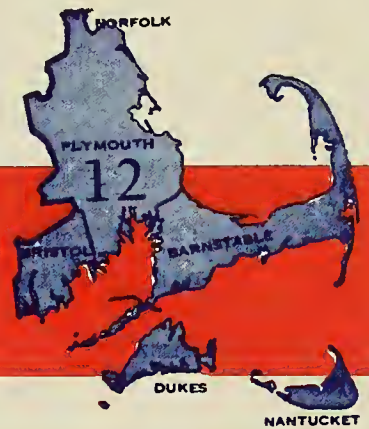
Hingham and Quincy-South Shore & ChofC to get consideration of Naval Ammu.
Depot as site for NASA elec. research center.

Helps individual industries and manufacturers (Sevigny's & contracts
with Def. Department)



NEWS

From
**CONGRESSMAN
HASTINGS KEITH**
12TH MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT



10

KEITH FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE

91 River Street, West Bridgewater, Massachusetts 583-3272

FOR RELEASE: Thursday, Oct. 13, 1966

SALTONSTALL TO ATTEND KEITH DINNER

West Bridgewater, Massachusetts, Oct. 10 -- Senator Leverett Saltonstall will head the list of dignitaries to attend the fund-raising dinner for Congressman Hastings Keith to be held at the Wareham High School, Wareham on October 15 at 7:00 P.M.

"It is pleasing to me to see that so many people are enthusiastic about my campaign. This type of support will insure my re-election, observed Congressman Keith. "As Congress will remain in session at least until October 22nd, and I can only campaign in the District on weekends until that time, I am relying heavily on my many loyal supporters to campaign on my behalf. The sale of tickets to the dinner indicates that my supporters recognize the need for an even more vigorous campaign than those in previous years. "

Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Elliot Richardson, candidate for Attorney General and Francis W. Sargent, candidate for Lieutenant Governor are listed among those expected to attend.

In Our Opinion

Studds girds for battle

It's the fashion apparently this year for Democrats to be off and running for contests that are still a long way off.

The presidential hopefuls started it. And it's catching on.

A newsletter called GESTure must have had some bad news for GOP Rep. Hastings Keith. For it announced that Gerry E. Studds would make another attempt at Congress in 1972.

Studds, a young, personable, hard-campaigner came very close to sending Keith into retirement the last time around.

As the newsletter says, given any one of a dozen minor factors last November, Studds "would be representing us in Congress right now. There is no need for Monday morning quarterbacking the thing;

suffice it to say that a fifteen hundred vote difference in 200,000 is a tossup."

Studds fooled many people in the election. He started from nowhere and almost made it. Studds claimed that the 12th District was ripe for taking by a Democrat. And he turned out to be right. Keith, after a hard primary contest, pulled through by the skin of his teeth.

There were many rumors around last time that Keith was ready to retire. Studds' entry into the congressional race this early will fuel more such rumors no doubt.

Studds had trouble early in his last campaign convincing people that he was a serious candidate with an excellent chance of winning. This time, he won't have that problem with anybody, not even Rep. Keith.

Hosts Dems, GOP in Boston

Hyannis, Massachusetts 02601, Thursday, April 15, 1971

'Hasty' an 8th-term candidate?

By DAVID HERN

Cape Cod Standard-Times

Boston Bureau

BOSTON — U. S. Rep. Hastings (Hasty) Keith was busily mending Beacon Hill fences Wednesday, looking to all intents as a strong candidate for an eighth term 1½ years hence in Washington.

The West Bridgewater Republican was host to Democratic and Republican legislators at a friendly—no politics—luncheon at Patten's Restaurant. Several of the area participants said that while there was no overt mention of future plans "Hasty looks like a candidate."

The entire Cape and Islands delegation was on hand as were, among others, New Bedford Democratic Reps. J. Louis LeBlanc, Edward P. Coury, Daniel F. Hayes and Donald R. Gaudette.

It was necessarily a brief affair. The House members had to get back on the job quickly for a roll call.

Keith who served in the State Senate, was familiar with demands on legislators' time during the active days of a ses-

sion and—according to those present—everything went quickly and smoothly.

The 12th District, served by Keith since the 1958 election, is always mentioned when legislators talk about major changes in congressional districts. A House-Senate committee is at work on this task and every week new plans are kicked around. Among changes mentioned most often is putting Brockton in the Keith district and taking away some of the towns at the northerly end.

This wasn't one of the luncheon tops, however, and Keith hasn't indicated particular concern. Because of population shortages in nearby districts, it is anticipated that some key changes are likely.

Keith won after a rugged primary and an equally tough election battle last year. One of his friends said, "He hasn't stopped campaigning for a day."

Former Sen. William D. Weeks, Cohasset, made the move against Keith in the GOP primary and is still considered a district rematch possibility. Weeks is expected to receive an important post in Gov. Francis W. Sargent's administration shortly, when the reorganization of state government is effective.

Keith not a 'last hurrah' figure

By DAVID E. LYNCH
Ottaway News Service

WASHINGTON—Rep. Hastings Keith is one of the last persons you would expect to mind making personal analogy out of Edwin O'Connor's "The Last Hurrah."

But when you ask Keith, who is finishing up a 14-year career in Congress, if he would do it any differently if he had the chance, the proper Southshore Republican, whose ancestors go back to the Mayflower, points to the last chapter in the book that was modeled after the life of Boston's famous, and often infamous, mayor James Michael Curley.

"Remember that scene," Keith asks, "where Frank Skiffington (the Mayor Curley figure in the book) is on his death bed and his snippy, young nephew says to him: 'Well, I'm certain that you would do it differently if you had it to do all over again.'"

And do you remember what Skiffington said?" Keith asks. "He sat up in bed and said: 'The hell I would.' Well that's how I feel about it."

Keith of course is not a "Last Hurrah" figure. He's too proper for that. But he has had a somewhat colorful career that he is generally satisfied with.

He is proud of his part in convincing the federal government to indemnify the cranberry growers after the Department of Health Education and Welfare started the famous cancer scare in the late 1950s.

Keith says he played a leading role in getting the indemnity, but he never tried to steal the ball away from the other lawmakers who had cranberry growers in their districts.

"My colleagues," he says, "realized from that moment on that I was going to be a team player — something that helped me throughout my career."

Because he balked at some of the provisions in the Cape Cod National Seashore legislation that he thought would encourage overcrowding on the Cape, Keith received little credit for final passage of the legislation.

But Keith and almost everyone on the Cape is satisfied with the final bill, and he is confident that his opposition to some points of the original bill and his support for the final legislation were instrumental in passing the law that most people agree is preserving the Cape.

Keith is also proud of his role in national legislation that came out of his Commerce and Merchant Marine and Fisheries committees.

He played a major role in drafting the coastal zone resources management concept, mutual fund regulations, warranty enforcement and air and noise pollution legislation.

And Keith has had his share of disappointments. One of his major disappointments has been the lack of coverage he received from the "Boston Globe."

He says the "Globe" "has never in the last two years, and only rarely in earlier times, bothered to find out what was going on in my office."

"It isn't easy when they undermine you by ignoring you," he says.

Keith is reportedly disturbed by a recent "Globe" piece listing him among a group of retiring lawmakers who will not be missed when Congress comes back next month.

This is pretty tough medicine for a man who spent 14 years in the House, and many of Keith's colleagues disagree. They say Keith is one of the few lawmakers who has made a name for himself

in the 435-member House, where anonymity is the price you pay for being a big man back home.

He made a name for himself as a strong supporter of President Nixon's Indochina policy, something that did not win him many friends back in Massachusetts, but something that made his colleagues respect him withstanding the pressure and voting the way he believed.

Keith also won respect as an environmental legislator, and he made a name for himself as an honest, friendly man with a sense of humor that was often funny and oftentimes difficult to understand, a fact that caused him some trouble throughout his career.

No one knows and has learned to appreciate this more than Mrs. Keith, who, the Congressman admits, has often saved the day after one of his jokes was misinterpreted.

Her best performance, Keith says, followed a Republican unity dinner called to heal the wounds of a "tough and sometimes unpleasant primary."

It seems that during this dinner Keith made his way from table to table thanking his workers and welcoming back the dissident party members. Everything was going well until he reached the table of a "rather formidable old friend who had detected to the other camp," he said.

"But I knew her well enough to give her an extra pat on the back and joke: 'Now is the old battle ax doing, nice to have you back on the team.'"

The woman seemed surprised by this greeting, and her only come-back was a weak, confused smile.

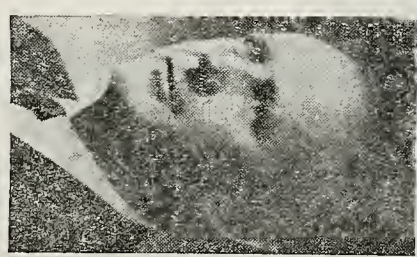
But it soon became evident that the "formidable old friend" from Hattax did not appreciate Keith's humor, because word of the well-meant greeting that was about to become an incident had reached Mrs. Keith before the lawmaker arrived home that night.

Mrs. Keith was waiting for her husband at the door, and she immediately asked what he had said to the lady.

"By that time," Keith said, "I hadn't recalled exactly what I said, but I didn't think it was very serious."

Well, as it turned out with Mrs. Keith's help, the well-meant but poorly put greeting was dismissed when Mrs. Keith explained to the woman that "Hasty wouldn't say something like that." She said her husband must have said: "How goes the battle in Hattax?"

When someone made the comment that Mrs. Keith must have been especially sharp that night to come up with her interpretation on the spur of the moment, Keith said: "Well, she's had a lot of experience at it."



HASTINGS KEITH

Another example of the sometimes mischievous Keith humor comes from one of his favorite stories that almost always seem to take place on elevators.

Bright and early one Monday morning, the lawmaker found himself on an elevator with a young secretary who was evidently returning from a weekend trip.

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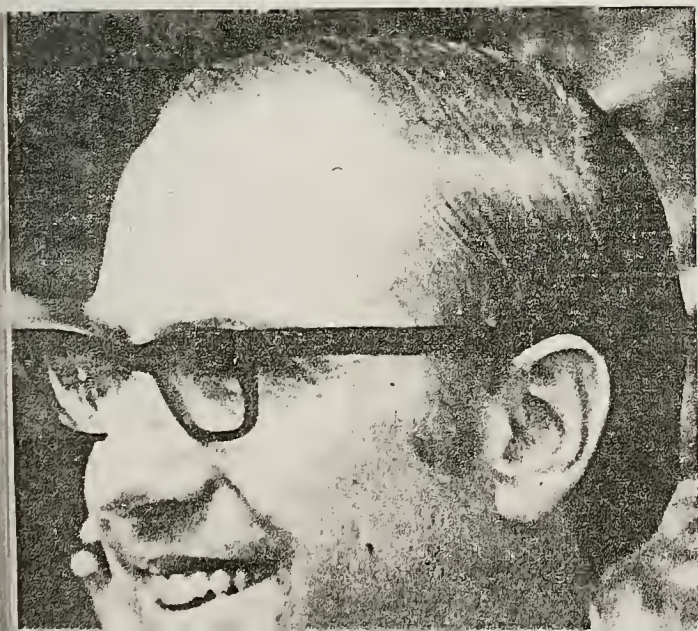
The GRAPEVINE

WIN

"... of the people, for the people and by the people."

Vol. II, Number 15, January 12, 1972

HASTINGS KEITH



Gerry Studds

The principle is the same. The potential is different.

The King is dead. Long live the King!

The Twelfth Congressional District, which encompasses all of Cape Cod and the Islands, has a new representative in Congress. Mr. Gerry Studds of Cohasset.

Studds is replacing Hastings Keith of West Bridgewater who held this congressional seat for 14 years. In 1970, Keith beat back a challenge in his own party from William Weeks, a former state senator, then held his seat by holding off Studds by about 1,520 votes out of about 200,000 votes cast. Keith announced his retirement early in 1972 and Weeks and Studds went after the seat.

Studds won it and local party friends of Weeks attribute Weeks' loss to his taking the Cape vote too lightly. Whatever ...

Hasty Keith served long and, for the most part, well. His work for the fishing industry was unrivalled in congress. He brought home several government contracts for workers in his district and, in his latter years in the congress, worked hard on the energy crisis. He wasn't a greedy publicity-grabber in congress and his fellow lawmakers respected this and this trait made it possible for him to move along his legislation. His foreign policy views and his lack of support for liberal social reforms probably cost him his popularity and his congressional seat.

Hasty was easy and reasonable to deal with on a personal basis ... and he was always ready to listen to an argument when one was getting a tough time from an unsympathetic member of his staff. Sure, low income groups and advocates didn't regard Hasty as a major ally in congress. His voting and actions were often unpredictable. We remember Hasty coming to the Community Action Committee building last January and telling him about a problem with food stamps in the area - poor people having to travel more than 50 miles to buy food stamps because a local bank stopped selling them. He gave an argument about us putting the bank on the spot and left the CAC with the impression that he would not get involved. On the next day, a staff member of Hasty's called and got all the particulars of the problem. Hasty also called from Washington later in the day. The bank continued food stamp selling for a while longer at Hasty's personal intervention. Hasty also shook up the Postal Service in getting it to sell food stamps on the Cape. Yes, he was unpredictable.

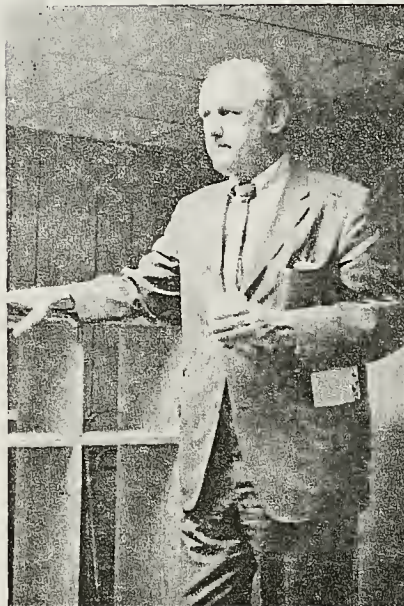
Hasty called for countless private investigations of the CAC and Legal Services over particular problems he had with the agencies. We always ended up with a clean bill of health and, rather than seeming aggravated, Hasty seemed pleased. At our request, Hasty personally contacted several local government bodies and asked them to send representatives to our Board of Directors. Yes, he was unpredictable.

And while low income people could not understand his stony silence on the Cape and Islands' low income, year round housing problem, we remember it was Hasty Keith who shook loose the federal Section 23 rent supplement application for Barnstable early last year. Seems that Hasty's inquiry found the application collecting dust in the bottom of some bureaucrat's draw in Washington. Yes, he was unpredictable.

Hasty now is returned to private life. He refused two presidential appointments because they were not in his field of experience and interest. Some say he won't get another offer. Too bad ... to bad to let his knowledge be untapped. He was our representative for 14 years and no one can wish him anything but success in his future.

This Studds person is the new man on the block. He campaigned on a platform of reordering the nation's priorities so he can do more for his district. He's a freshman in congress and freshman are most liked by their fellow legislators when they are seen and not heard.

He is going to set up a district office on the Cape and spend Thursdays through Mondays in the district to keep in touch with his constituency. His campaign reflected a strong interest in welfare reform, which won't punish



people for being on welfare. His housing position paper was encouraging for low income people on Cape Cod. His concern for ecology can only be counted as a plus for Cape Cod residents and his interest in the fishing industry is deep. Welfare, housing and health problems of low income people of the district will not be unwelcome problems in his office.

With his first two years in Congress still ahead of him, we wish Gerry well. People on welfare and workers who are just making ends meet seem to have found a friend in the Twelfth District's Congressman. U.S. Representative Gerry Studds.

(The Grapevine Jan. 12, 1973)

9/30/99

Hastings Keith's unfinished quest

YEARS ago, before they were blighted, great American Elms made Gothic archways over New England's Main streets. Each spring, they formed anew a canopy of green to provide shade and beauty to inspire even the least poetic among us.

The 83-year-old Hastings Keith of Falmouth, Monument Beach and Washington, D.C., reminds me of those great unblighted Yankee elms. He, too, serves to inspire because he was never scarred by scandal, greed, corruption or great vanity, which is now so common among politicians.

This venerable Brocton and Cape Cod native capped his distinguished career as soldier in World War II, teacher, entrepreneur and state senator with a 14-year stint as U.S. representative from the old 12th Massachusetts District, which included Cape Cod, the islands, most of the South Shore and Southeastern Mass.

He was the last Republican to hold the office. But retirement has escaped this virtuous Yankee servant of the people. He has spent the last 20 years of his life fighting to tame the federal pension tiger and reduce the largess that flows "unwanted and unearned" into bank accounts in ever-expanding sums.

I spent several hours with him this week renewing our friendship begun when I served briefly as his media secretary during the 1970 election cycle. It was a reunion filled with his rapid-fire commentary on the inequity of the system from which he benefits handsomely. He hammers away at its genesis, its powerful political constituency and its seeming immunity to reform.

He tells of his relentless search for allies for the bi-partisan PFPS, the non-profit organization he founded with the late John Macy, former president of the Public Broadcasting Corp. and former chairman of the U.S. Civil Service Commission. PFPS is the acronym for the National Committee on Public Employee Pension Systems.

During my reunion with "Hasty" at his wife Barbara's summer home in Monument Beach, he told me of his recent encounter with the legendary economist-statesman John Kenneth Galbraith of Harvard. He sought the noted economist out after reading his book, "The Great Crash."



Francis Galbraith

Keith is still fighting to get pension reform on the table for action.

well being of the people. I asked to speak to him about it and explain why indexing can carry with it the seeds of financial ruin as is the case with federal pension COLAs" or Cost of Living Adjustments.

Galbraith wrote back, complimenting "Hasty" on his "agreeable letter" and expressed "much interest" in pursuing the matter further when time permitted. In a face to face meeting with Galbraith, "Hasty" championed his cause citing, among other materials, his famous "Annual Synopses" showing how his civil service pension, military retirement and civil service widower's annuity have grown exponentially since his retirement from Congress in 1973.

The growth has been so explosive, he contends, he has already received more than \$1.865 million in pension benefits — half of it in COLAs.

Under the federal pension formula, COLAs are added to the base pay each year and compounded annually ad infinitum.

By far the most costly to taxpayers and most lucrative to federal pensioners are the heavily indexed civil service and military pensions. Keith's civil service pension started at \$1,560 a month in 1973 when he was only 57. By Jan. 1, 1999, it had risen to \$6,768 a month.

His military pension started at \$550 a month in 1976 when he turned 60. By the first of this year, it had effectively tripled to \$1,566 per month. His civil service widower's annuity started in 1989 when "Hasty" turned 73. It was a modest \$620 a month which has since grown to \$882 per month.

Only his Social Security stipend (which is the only retirement money most Americans will ever draw) has grown at a lesser rate

the last 19 years.

All totaled, Keith draws \$126,702 a year in pension and retirement checks. Assuming a rate of inflation of 4 percent over the remaining 5.1 years of his actuarial life expectancy, the value of his military service pension alone will exceed \$900,000.

"All I ever contributed to my Congressional/civil service pension was \$32,786," says Keith. "I contributed nothing toward my military pension. Of the \$1,753,260 I have received to date in federal pensions, \$702,550 is from COLAs on my civil service and military pensions alone!"

Keith is still fighting to get pension reform on the table for action. In an essay for publication last fall, he wrote: "Before Congress and the president tackle reform of the Social Security system, they should do a lot of house cleaning on their own retirement systems. It's a little-known fact that the civil and military retirement systems are the country's third largest entitlement right after Social Security and Medicare. These systems have accumulated \$1.83 trillion in liabilities — half of it unfunded. It threatens to bankrupt the country all on its own. We federal employees contribute less than seven percent of the nation's workforce, but we are scheduled to get more in traditional pension benefits than the private sector combined. How could this be?"

Keith answers his own question with two words: "by design." There is a deliberate and sustained effort on the part of a powerful federal retiree lobby to maintain the status quo, rebuff every attempt at reform and seek retribution against all politicians from presidents to members of Congress who dare try to end the gravy train.

That's why Keith needs allies. That is why the support of such a distinguished liberal economist as Galbraith is essential to successful reform of our runaway federal pension system, which enriches few at the expense of the many who won't make themselves listen to the boring details and financial formula which expose this raid on the public fisc. Such details put ordinary folk to sleep.

In next week's column, I'll revisit this issue and tell you how, in Keith's words: "Massachusetts got it right."

Massachusetts got it right

This is the second of two columns on federal pension reform.

HASTINGS KEITH, the Cape's former congressman, describes federal pension cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) as "cost-of-luxury adjustments" since his three federal pensions are each "indexed" along with his maximum Social Security draw.

He gets four bites of the COLA apple, believing he's entitled to only one. "It's unfair," he says. Objective observers agree.

Current indexing of federal pensions consumes billions of dollars, rewarding high-end federal retirees with taxes taken from the majority of American workers forced to make up the difference between what federal annuitants have paid into the system plus dividends and what they take out.

The problem stems from the fact that all federal pensions are indexed and the COLAs — except for Social Security — are then rolled back into each pension base and compounded annually.

Many retirees draw from two, three or even four separate federal and state retirement systems — each with its own profitable COLA. Few, especially those who "take their 20" or retire at 55 or younger, get only one pension. Many quit military careers to work in other government agencies that provide generous pension benefits. Others get private sector jobs or are "self employed" long enough to qualify for Social Security and/or private pension plans.

"Yes, Massachusetts got it right," Keith told me after reading last week's column. "But it isn't perfect. The state has failed to move to universal Social Security coverage, which is really part of the ultimate solution of the American pension crisis."

This view was shared by Jerry Wurf, the late national president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Wurf pleaded with Congress to pass legislation mandating universal Social Security coverage for all workers. The bill failed because of political cowardice. But that's another story.

Massachusetts, says Keith, equitably determines its pension



Francis
Broadhurst

Every attempt at federal pension reform gets shot down. Inequities continue and so, too, the "Quiet Crisis."

COLAs, taking care of annuitants by keeping pace with inflation and sparing taxpayers who must guarantee funding for government employee pensions.

"In Massachusetts," Keith reminds us, "the governor does not include COLAs in his annual budget. When it goes to the Legislature, the House and Senate negotiate with the governor to determine how much is enough and how much the state can afford. They determine the rate of interest to be paid and the amount of the pension to be indexed. It is not automatic; not added to the pension base; and not compounded like federal COLAs."

A 1987 American Legislative Exchange Council study of state pension systems, including county and municipal workers, concluded: "State employee pension systems directly affect the lives of over 12 million Americans." They had total liabilities of \$600 billion; unfunded liabilities of almost \$180 billion; and only \$316 billion in current assets.

Federal retirement systems, which Keith has studied, benefited from and decried, cover fewer people and are in much worse shape. Its current liabilities run

to \$1.83 trillion. Every attempt at reform gets shot down. Inequities continue and so, too, the "Quiet Crisis."

Under Gov. Michael Dukakis, we indexed the first \$6,000 of each pension (sometimes called the "poverty level") at 3 percent. Using this formula, each pension increased about \$15 a month. Under Gov. William Weld, inflation was higher so the Legislature and the governor, through annual increments, eventually indexed the first \$12,000 of each pension at the rate of 6 percent to give state annuitants a \$30 monthly increase.

This treated lower income retirees fairly; did not over-compensate high-end retirees; and, equally important, has not unduly burdened the taxpayers. Not so in the federal system. It is unreformed, unrepentant and unchecked.

When former House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill Jr. tried to address the federal entitlement problem, he appointed friend and ally Brian Donnelly, D-Mass., to chair his "Task Force on Entitlements."

Donnelly invited former colleague Keith to testify. After hearing his proposal to cap federal pension COLAs, Donnelly remarked that Keith's plan was like Massachusetts's, noting proudly: "We are somewhat frugal in the Commonwealth."

"We ought to adopt that Mr. Keith," he added. "I hope you can come back next year and say 'Thank you, Congress, for taking away money from me'."

That was March 1984. Nothing happened despite backing of leaders in Congress like "Tip" O'Neill who, upon attending his first meeting of former members of Congress in 1993, said: "It isn't often I agreed with Hastings Keith — but I've got to admit that on this COLA thing, he's right!"

It's hell to be right and still be on the losing side. Keith continues his lonely battle for federal pension and COLA reform.

"It's not very sexy," he sighs. "But...."

Francis Broadhurst is a Cape Cod Times columnist. His column runs on Thursdays. Write him at 88 Stony Cliff Road, Centerville, MA 02632 or e-mail him at FIBcape@aol.com.

Holborn, Martin, Moore, Keith, Saltonstall, Kennedy:

Part of the team that created the National Seashore

By FELIX CARROLL

It was April 1960. Helicopters carrying Senate subcommittee members swooped down to Fort Hill in Eastham.

The senators had just taken an aerial tour of the Outer Cape coastline — a glistening necklace of beaches, cliffs, dunes, spits and marshes that had been proposed as a new national park.

Jonathan Moore, at the time a legislative assistant to Sen. Leverett Saltonstall, remembers the day well.

It was blustery. It was getting dark. The atmosphere was tense.

Reporters were waiting for the Senate delegation, as were town officials from the six towns whose land would be included within the park.

Then the debate began. Would Fort Hill be included in the proposed park? A subdivision had already been laid out. Building stakes were in the ground.



Jonathan Moore



Fred Holborn



Hastings Keith

U.S. Rep. Hastings Keith, the Cape's representative in Congress, wanted to keep Fort Hill outside the park to protect development interests in Eastham.

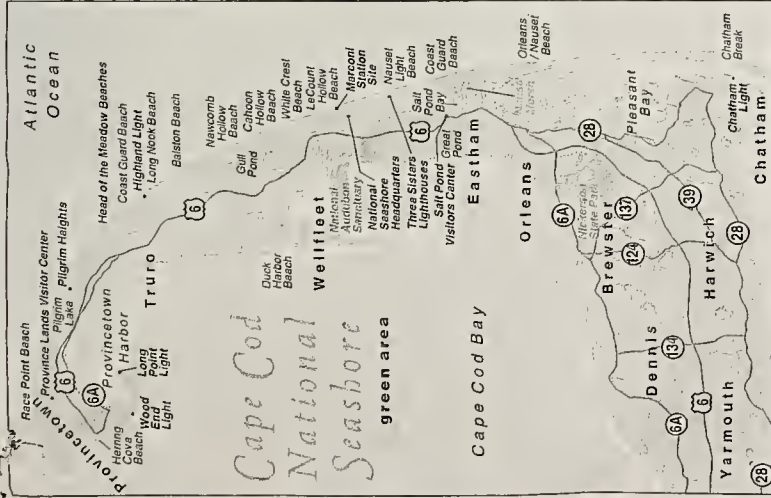
That would've been a disaster, said Moore, now with the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and a senior advisor to the United Nations Development Program.

If the fort was lost to development, the whole park plan could unravel northward, where other towns had similar disputes regard-

ing park borders. Standing on the hill, looking out across Nauset Marsh, senators listened to Keith as he promoted the proposed development.

"Hastings Keith said, 'Look, that wonderful view there will not be changed. You'll be able to see that beautiful view forever,'" recalled Moore.

"There was no one there giving the opposite view," Moore said. "I Please see SEASHORE (G-5)



Staff map by James Warren

Times On Line: www.capecodonline.com

an unusual thing, so it really had to have everyone pulling for it or it wasn't going to happen," Moore said in a recent phone interview from his home in Weston.

Moore, a Cape native who had gone to school in Orleans, was vital to the efforts.

"I knew most of the area down there that the park was going to encompass," he said. "I lived there. I fished there. I camped there. I knew the towns, and I knew a lot of the people in these towns. That was a help."

Moore came to the Senate staff in 1959. He recalls long night meetings, lots of ear bending and gentle arm twisting in efforts to gain consensus for the park.

"There wasn't a feeling that this was something insignificant or that it was just going to go away," he said. "It had authority, momentum. But it was a careful, painstaking process."

Calls to preserve large swaths of the Cape began as early as 1939, when the National Park Service made a preliminary investigation of a possible national seashore in Massachusetts.

After World War II, state conservationists, led by Francis W. Sargent, then state commissioner of natural resources, devised a long-range plan for the acquisition of state parks. The seashore was a significant piece of the plan.

But the conservationists' plans competed with development inter-

Saltonstall Bill or the Saltonstall-Kennedy Bill.

"We had someone from Rhode Island toss the coin," he said. Kennedy won.

"We did realize in 1960 that if successful with this, we could establish a plan for other bills," Holborn said. Point Reyes, near San Francisco, and Padre Island near Corpus Christi, Texas, were established soon after the National Seashore.

"Looking over my whole life, including having been at the Kennedy White House, it always is one of the two or three substantial accomplishments that's visible, that had an outcome. Particularly, when you have done quite a bit of work in foreign affairs, you don't

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park. But town officials hoped that some of the acreage could be set aside for expansion of the town. Plans for high-rise apartments and a golf course set Del Deo and her fellow conservationists to action.

"The real estate interests got on their horses and galloped about with their swords waving, saying, 'You're never going to have land to expand. The federal government is going to take everything away from you. It was surrealistic.'"

"The developers saw right away they were going to lose this incredible, beautiful real estate on the Atlantic Ocean. There was an enormous fight," Del Deo said.

The committee's position — to turn the entire 3,000-acre tract over to the National Park Service — was considered extreme, she said. But they won out in what Del Deo called "one of the most remarkable conservation votes seen in this country."

"If you were dealing with a logical push from development there might have been a good compromise," she said. "But to compromise at that point, we really knew that we would lose everything because once you bit into it, the others would bite into it, and it would become a devolving process which you could not stop."

Foster, now a lecturer at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, said, "I learned one very valuable lesson from that experience that I've kept with me the rest of my professional life. And that is the value of dissent."

On Aug. 7, 1961, President Kennedy signed the Cape Cod National Seashore bill into law. Since then, the Park Service has moved in. Some bitterness lingers with locals over federal management practices — particularly with resource management decisions.

The advisory commission continues to address those concerns. "You're going to have minor losses, particularly with so-called individual's rights," Del Deo said. "But the major gains — having the park — are so great and so important that you can't even discuss the differences."

"I think most people now realize this was the right thing to do," said Marge Burling. "This was the only way to save the Cape."

WARNING

SEASHORE

Continued from G-1

piped up, saying sarcastically, "Sure, you'll be able to see that view, if you can see through all the houses that'll be built if you keep it out of the park."

Later in the helicopter, Moore said, the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, Sen. Alan Bible of Nevada, leaned toward Moore's ear.

"That decided it for me," Moore recalled Bible saying. Fort Hill would be included within the boundaries.

"We didn't give in," Moore said. "You get to the point where if you start to let up or loosen up, the whole thing could go. You could compromise yourself into oblivion."

■ ■ ■

In August 1961, the Cape Cod National Seashore was established by Congress, protecting 40 miles of shoreline from Chatham to Provincetown — more than 27,000 acres in all, including uplands, swamp and forests.

It was the first such national park of its kind. It set a precedent for similar parks that include developed land within their borders.

If one could choose the one event that permanently changed the face of Cape Cod in the 20th century, it would probably be the creation of the National Seashore. But establishing the park took years of drama and trauma. This is a story of the people behind the park, those who made a difference in the life of the Cape in the past century.

■ ■ ■

Calls to preserve large swaths of the Cape began as early as 1939, when the National Park Service made a preliminary investigation of a possible national seashore in Massachusetts.

After World War II, state conservationists, led by Francis W. Sargent, then state commissioner of natural resources, devised a long-range plan for the acquisition of state parks. The seashore was a significant piece of the plan.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

President John F. Kennedy signs the Cape Cod National Seashore Bill on Aug. 7, 1961, as a delegation of elected officials assemble at the White House.

resources in February 1959. Some were hostile to the idea. Effigies of U.S. Reps. Edward Boland and Thomas P. O'Neill, who introduced bills in Congress to establish the national seashore, were burned in 1959. Earlier bills in 1957 and 1958 went nowhere.

By 1959, Saltonstall and Sen. John F. Kennedy had appointed staffs to play an active role in the formation of the seashore.

The team of Kennedy and Saltonstall was "unbeatable," Moore said, and were backed by the Park Service, state officials and conservationists on and off the Cape.

"The (park proposal) was such an unusual thing, so it really had to have everyone pulling for it or it wasn't going to happen," Moore said in a recent phone interview from his home in Weston.

Moore, a Cape native who had gone to school in Orleans, was vital to the efforts. "I knew most of the area down there that the park was going to encompass," he said. "I lived there. I fished there. I camped there. I knew the towns, and I knew a lot of the people in these towns. That was a help."

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"There wasn't a feeling that this was something insignificant or that it was just going to go away," he said. "It had authority, momentum. But it was a careful, painstaking process."

Kennedy aide Fred Holborn and Saltonstall aide David Martin were crucial in establishing the park. They calmed nerves on the Cape. They worked with town officials.

Until the National Seashore, all other units in the national park system had been created from thinly populated land already federally owned or land that was either donated by the state or private individuals.

Martin, a lawyer, figured innovation was needed in drafting the legislation to ease condemnation worries of homeowners. Thus, he devised the idea that all homeowners within the proposed park could keep their homes and sell them when they wished. But he also called for the towns within the park to adopt tight zoning restrictions of the private land within the park.

"David Martin and I got together and this gradually evolved," said Holborn, now 70 and a professor at Johns Hopkins School of International Studies in Washington, D.C.

In the summer of 1959, Martin and Holborn spent three days on Cape testing the waters, Holborn said. They met with town officials and those opposed to the park.

"It was tense all the time," he said. "I think it would have passed with or without Kennedy being elected president, but that, of course, did nail it down."

He recalls the legendary coin toss in the summer of 1959 when it was to be decided whether to name the legislation the Kennedy-Saltonstall Bill or the Saltonstall-Kennedy Bill.

"We had someone from Rhode Island toss the coin," he said. Kennedy won.

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see that very often."

On Sept. 3, 1959, identical bills were introduced in the Senate and House to provide for the establishment of Cape Cod National Seashore.

The legislation spelled out proposed boundaries. Condemnation of homes was to be suspended for a year. Payments in lieu of taxes would be made to the towns to account for the private property acquired for the park. Hunting would be allowed, a departure from park service practice.

Also, a 10-member advisory commission, made up of representatives of the six towns, the state, the county and the U.S. Department of Interior, would be established.

The most stunning component of the legislation was the appropriation of \$15 million for the acquisition of land and waters. This would be the first time Congress had been asked to authorize the use of public funds to buy an entire park. It eventually cost double that amount.

In March 1960, the economic impact study for the proposed park was released by the National Park Service and helped allay some fears.

Saltonstall, during Congressional hearings that year, called the proposed park a "dedication to the spiritual replenishment of modern man." The bill stalled in 1960, though hearings continued and Kennedy was elected president.

On Dec. 16, 1960, the House Subcommittee on Public Lands opened two days of meetings at Eastham Town Hall.

Foster the state official, urged officials to take action. "May I remind the committee again that the location of this hearing is within a day's drive of 50 million people — people who, park or no park, are already seeking this last stretch of unspoiled shoreline in unprecedented numbers," he told them on the first night.

Josephine Del Deo of Provincetown was at the meeting to testify as a member of the Emergency Committee for the Province Lands.

At the time, the Province Lands were protected by the state. The National Park Service wanted to include it within the proposed

park. But town officials hoped that some of the acreage could be set aside for expansion of the town. Plans for high-rise apartments and a golf course set Del Deo and her fellow conservationists to action.

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"You're going to have minor losses, particularly with so-called individual's rights," Del Deo said. "But the major gains — having the park — are so great and so important that you can't even discuss the differences."

"I think most people now realize this was the right thing to do," said Marge Burling. "This was the only way to save the Cape."

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his dead body, imagine that," Cape Cod had hoped to be a retirement community, Keith said. "That's why some of the people down there resented the National Seashore," he said. "They thought they could take care of that (preservation) themselves. They didn't realize that the move to the beaches was beyond their control. "We could have Jersey-ized the coast," he continued. "Township thought that if they continue to buy up the shoreline and had their commercial activities carefully zoned by the town government that they could control it. But they were wrong."

Keith, who still has a home on the Cape, said he fought to create the park for preservation purposes, not recreation. He said he wanted "a more Thoreau-type enjoyment, rather than the girl on the beach with a bikini."

The park was a tough sell locally, he recalled. He got a lot of flack during Congressional hearings on the Cape from both opponents and proponents of the park. "This was a great work of design and art," said Keith, who was a sponsor of the park legislation. "There's a word for it: tectonics. That's the combination of the best of architecture and the best of beauty."

By architecture, Keith means the legislation itself. And its beams were no cinch to hoist. "The legislation is referred to as the Kennedy-Saltonstall-Keith Bill, but it might more aptly be called the Holborn-Martin Bill as the burden of developing the legislation fell on these two men," said Frank Burling in his book, "The Birth of the Cape Cod National Seashore." Burling died in the late 1970s.

During the summer of 1959, Frank Burling, the managing editor of The Cape Codder, spent nights on the phone with legislative aides answering Cape-related questions and giving pointers on ways to gain the support of town officials and citizens. "All that summer, night after night, the phone would ring at our house at dinner time and my husband would leave the table to answer," recalled his wife Marge, who later worked for the Park Service for 19 years as secretary to the superintendents.

Off Cape, most people were supportive of the idea. On Cape was a different story. "The local sentiment on the Cape was quite mixed and quite suspicious," recalled Henry C. Foster, who took over as the state commissioner of natural

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But the conservationists' plans competed with development interests. The Mid-Cape Highway, which was being built at the time, was making the Outer Cape more accessible. People were buying land and building houses.

"You could see it happening," said Marge Burling of Brewster, who is now 83. "Cars were stopping on the side of the road. All of a sudden it was, 'Look what there is to buy.' Developers were going wild."

In 1954, Paul Mellon funded an 18-month study by the National Park Service of the 3,700 miles of U.S. shoreline from Canada to Mexico. The study revealed that only 240 miles of the coastline were in federal or state ownership for public use. A report placed a priority on acquiring 16 areas. First on the list was the "Great Beach, Cape Cod, Massachusetts."

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The Man Who Drew Too Much

HASTINGS KEITH, a retired Massachusetts congressman, is the only person most of us in Washington know who goes around town badgering people to reduce his income.

Keith is forever buttonholing people to point at himself as a horrible example of a dastardly double-dipping, triple-scooper of government money, the very personification of the excesses of the federal pension system.

He is, he thinks, scandalously well off. From his 20 years of government service (15 years in Congress), he gets a pension of \$69,699; from the military (he was in the Navy in World War II), \$16,332; from Social Security \$13,992; a widower's annuity from the CIA (where his second wife worked for 25 years), \$9,2094; That's a total of \$110,000 a year, and Keith thinks it's an outrage, as he never tires of telling people.

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See McGRORY, C5, Col. 1

Mary McGrory is a Washington Post columnist.

11-18-93

The Man Who Drew Too Much

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Monthly editor Charles Peters, who, while he called a "neo-liberal," is a true liberal, having the irreducible attribute of an open mind. He has printed several stories about Keith and the depressing spectacle of public officials getting more money out of office than he.

"It's the fairest way to save money on the deficit," Peters says. "Because it is so clear and obvious, it is a tremendous tribute to the power of the federal employees' lobby and the deeply shared interests in this town that nothing happens. Members of Congress have similar pensions and staff members also have an interest in protecting them. The watchdog of

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The Man Who Drow Too Much

McGIRY, From C1

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Golden rocking chair

Thousands of federal workers retire early on more than they made when they worked

EDITOR'S NOTE: Rare in the age of the entitlement mentality is the fellow who begs government to give him less. Readers, allow us to introduce Hastings Keith.

Keith is a 76-year-old former congressman whose major public interest since retirement has been his campaign to bring down the high cost of federal pensions. And who better to know how high those costs are than a man who collects four monthly government retirement checks totalling \$8,910?

Keith is co-founder, co-chairman and primary financier of the National Committee on Public Employee Pension Systems. He wrote the following article at the Journal Star's request.

BY HASTINGS KEITH

"If Congress doesn't get rid of duplication of benefits and exorbitant automatic raises in pension payments, our next generation will face financial disaster." This warning was sounded in an article which I wrote for *The Reader's Digest* in 1976, entitled "Let's Throttle Back the Federal Pension Gravy Train." The article went on to explain that my federal pension income was \$1,560 a month upon retirement in 1973. Here it is 1992, and my total federal pension income has skyrocketed to \$8,910 a month — a 471 percent increase!

These dramatic figures are indicative of what we 4.5 million federal annuitants "enjoy," and are directly attributable not only to the "automatic raises" awarded on the "duplication of benefits," but also to early retirement. With the country in the midst of a deep recession, a "financial disaster" larger than the S&L bailout or the BCCI scandal is clearly on the horizon.

☐ The table for females was inadvertently used to calculate life expectancy. I can expect to live nine more years — my total federal pension income could be \$166,000 a year at age 85.

Because of my years of private-sector employment and my 20 years of Congressional and military service, and because I married a federal employee, I have become a "quadruple scooper." I receive cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) on three federal pensions (Congressional/Civil Service, Military, Widower's Annuity) and Social Security. All told, I've received about \$1 million in federal pensions and Social Security — nearly half of which is due to COLAs. It seems that our spendthrift "go along to get along" government hasn't recognized yet that I, and the 4.5 million other federal annuitants, don't deserve or need overly generous COLAs on unlimited amounts of federal pension income.

Since 1970 (the last year the budget was balanced), these COLAs have been paid with borrowed money that is rolled over and over. This alone accounts for more than \$400 billion of the national debt!

It is mostly taxpayers — many of them as yet unborn — who will shoulder this huge burden. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of federal workers will retire early — often making more than when they actually worked for Uncle Sam — and settle into their "golden rocking chairs" instead of contributing to the productivity of our economy.

Former Congressman Barber Conable, retired president of the World Bank and a member of the National Committee on Public Employee Pension Systems, cautioned in a 1985 *U.S. News & World Report* article that "unless some reasonable limit is imposed on the federal pension system, its excesses will not only exacerbate our deficit problem, but will also bring about a popular reaction punitive to the interests of retired public employees." This popular reaction will occur only when private sector

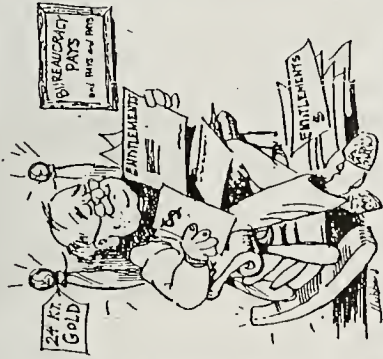
workers realize that, because the unaffordable system of federal retirement is part of the total cost of doing business in America, the nation's ability to compete in global markets will be significantly handicapped.

In 1982, after exposing the extravagance of the federal pension systems on "60 Minutes," Co-Chairman John Macy (who was chairman of the Civil Service when federal pensions were indexed) and I represented the pensions committee before the Congressional Task Force on Entitlements. In question was the Reagan administration's plan to freeze federal pension COLAs for 1983.

At the hearing, I testified that if Congress would adopt the cap we proposed, I would only get COLAs on the maximum Social Security benefit — the first \$9,600 of one of my pensions. (Today, that figure is \$12,224, or \$18,336 for an eligible couple.) This would cover the true cost of living increase — i.e., that which is used for such things as food, clothing and modest shelter. The limits would be comparable to those in the private sector; only the "cost-of-luxuries" would be trimmed. Congress remained unconvinced of the political salability of the COLA cap, and consequently, no such plan was adopted.

Later, in the mid-1980s, Gramm-Rudman legislation initially cut out an entire pension COLA for five years. This proposal unleashed such a firestorm of protest by the federal retirees' lobbies that an avalanche of letters and PAC money easily routed the forces of fairness and affordability. The result: Full COLAs were reinstated after only one year.

When the Bush administration tentatively agreed to pare back COLAs at the Andrews Air Force Base budget negotiations for fiscal 1991, the retiree lobbies again prepared for combat. The Retired Off-



cers Association and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees trooped up Capitol Hill with their sophisticated propaganda machines. With the opposition softened by more PAC money (\$10,000) was passed along to one senator up for re-election, the lobbies once again seduced the budgeteers into restoring full COLAs for federal retirees.

If I continue to get these COLAs on my federal pensions, it has been projected that I could get — just for breathing — as much as \$191,000 per year if I live out my current life expectancy of 88 years. This would be even more than the \$150,000-a-year pension that 88-year-old former Senator Mike Mansfield gets right now!

Meanwhile, the Congress and federal retirees who enjoy the most generous retirement system in the world seem to have forgotten about those who can barely afford rent and food. Average Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients — most of whom are blind, disabled, aged and without other income — are limited to \$407 a month. As a result of January's 3.7 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index, their monthly install-

ment went up a meager \$15 to \$422 a month! At the same time, the COLAs on my four pensions went up \$317 a month.

The average Society Security recipient's January CPI increase was \$22 a month — but to be eligible, he/she must be at least 62 years of age, and be "really" retired.

Contrast the restrictions on these retirees with the total compensation "package" that we former congressmen and federal retirees enjoy under the Civil Service Retirement System. Not only are we entitled to unlimited assets, but also unlimited income and COLAs. We enjoy very generous early retirement benefits (25 years' or any age), a very liberal definition of disability, and what seems to be the best health care in the land — with \$2 million worth of catastrophic coverage.

Our committee believes that the facts concerning all federal perks — not just the Senate pay raise — should be fully disclosed. They should have been an issue in both the president's State of the Union address and the primaries.

The hundreds of billions of dollars that are being squandered on "double-dippers" and "triple-scoopers" could be better spent elsewhere. Cutting out the "Cost-Of-Luxury Adjustments" of the federal pension systems could help in many ways — for instance, it would ward off financial disaster by reducing both the deficit and the national debt, alleviate the overburdened taxpayer, help rebuild our infrastructure and/or resolve the nation's health crisis.

Hastings Keith was a member of Congress from Massachusetts from 1959 to 1973.

☐ - During a Reduction In Force (RIF), a worker can retire at any age with 25 years of service.

It will

give Keith

a hearing

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Mary McGrory is a syndicated columnist.

Hastings Keith's Warning

1.5.11

We were sure that Hastings Keith would find this a good time to repeat warning about the pension system hired federal employees. And he

Falmouth, Mass., Friday, December 14, 1984

former Republican Congressman from this district draws federal pensions. He knows what he is talking. What he is talking about is the automatic escalation of these

as. Keith wrote, in an article published on Monday by The Globe: "1973, my congressional pension is more than doubled, from a month (at age 57) to \$3,874. 1975, my military pension has doubled, having climbed from a month (at age 60) to \$1,024. My Security has increased from a month (at age 65) in 1980 to \$845. It does not require an accountant to conclude that this combination of cost-of-living increases is much higher than it needs to be."

It has been some years now since Hastings Keith gathered Cape reporters around a luncheon table at Miller's Chowder House in Hyannis and went over the pension matter with them. Mr. Keith was trained as an underwriter, and he has the head for figures. He also has a good republican conscience, and his conscience was

outraged then and is outraged now. Most people collecting \$70,000 a year for doing nothing would pocket the money and say nothing, hoping that the game would go on forever.

Hastings Keith argues: "The undilled pension generosity on the part of the taxpayer to the federal retirees has created a problem of massive proportions that somehow remained hidden in this election year. We have been well exposed to the federal government's financial difficulties — budget deficits in the neighborhood of \$200 billion a year and a national debt that has grown to a mind-boggling \$1.4 trillion. Much less publicized is the fact that Uncle Sam's Civil Service and military retirement systems are \$1.1 trillion in the red. These liabilities are treated as off-budget deficits. They will eventually become part of the national debt — unless the system is changed."

* * *

Someone named Dave, fortunately, has bought Charlie's Dave's Doughnuts from Charlie, who knew the value of the popular shop and meeting place's former name. Asking someone to meet you at Charlie's Dave's somehow never slipped trippingly off the tongue.

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HASTINGS KEITH
former congressman

By **HASTINGS KEITH**

Budget Director David A. Stockman's charge last month that the nation's top military brass are more concerned about their pensions than they are about the nation's security has drawn a lot of hostile fire from assorted veterans' groups.

Numerous studies over the last two decades have found the military retirement system to be inefficient, inequitable and ever more costly. Yet congressional inertia has left the basic flaws in the military pension scheme uncorrected.

Perhaps Stockman could have brought the issue closer to home for some of his former colleagues in Congress if he had said: "Look, let's face it, the whole country is suffering from federal pensionitis so severe that it will bankrupt us if we don't get a handle on it. We should set an example for the reform of these runaway retirement programs by starting with our own. Those of us in Congress have, in many respects, a pension plan that is as lavish as that of the military."

Stockman could have pointed out that the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, by the end of his next term, will be eligible to retire from Congress with a pension worth more than \$1 million. He also could have noted that the National Taxpayers Union re-

cently estimated that at least 36 members of Congress were potential "pension millionaires" under the congressional retirement system.

Then Stockman could have recalled that in 1942, amid the national self-sacrifice called for by World War II, Congress first decided to legislate a pension for itself. That is, until some Californians, feeling sorry for their representatives in Washington, started a "Bundles for Congress" movement, and within weeks Congress reversed itself and repealed the legislation.

Take my own case. My federal pension benefits, as a former member of Congress, may be higher than those of most military retirees and former federal employees. But there are at least 60,000 of us who "are entitled" to pensions averaging about \$50,000 a year when the Social Security increment is added into the total. Federal workers, as a class, have become the most highly pensioned people in America.

It is not that the initial pension benefit was extraordinarily high. The dynamic nature of the compounding cost-of-living adjustments, applied to the whole pension, has escalated our benefits until they have soared out of sight.

My pension, for example, for 14 years in Congress, together with added increments of a reserve pension and Social Security, has escalated from \$1,560 a month to about \$6,000 a

Pensions need a cut

Congress should set an example by cutting bloated retirements

month. And I am not unique. Assuming that the average Civil Service pensioner's median age is about the same as mine — 69 — and that he or she has a life expectancy of about 80, these pension benefits will continue to compound.

In the 1970s New York suffered an economic crisis that forced it to reform its pension system. Now, 15 years later, federal pensions need the same attention, particularly because of the role that they play in increasing the deficit.

Some members of Congress have joined a growing number of Americans in criticizing the federal pension system. Majority Whip Alan K. Simpson said that Congress has made potential "pension millionaires" out of dozens of his congressional colleagues. "If there's a grotesque pension plan in America," he said, "it's right here in the United States Congress."

Democrat Rep. Les Aspin, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, in attacking the military pension plan, said: "Any retirement system that costs that much gives a whole new meaning to the term lavish."

The members of the organization of which I am co-chairman, the National Committee on Public Employee Pension Systems, are former members of Congress and other federal pensioners who, somewhat "embarrassed" by our riches, are trying to be more forward-

looking in our fiduciary responsibilities than we were in the past. We have been so concerned about our role in this impending fiscal disaster that we created the organization to help restore common sense to the federal pension system.

We believe that we should make our contribution to the reduction of the deficit by limiting future cost-of-living increases to the portion of a federal pension that is equivalent to the maximum Social Security benefit, which is currently about \$10,000 a year. Such a ceiling would save billions of dollars — more than \$31 billion in the next seven years if inflation should stay at 5 percent. And if inflation should revert to 10 percent, as in the recent past, the amount saved in the same period would be \$72 billion.

In the long run hundreds of billions of dollars would be saved. It is the least that we can do to stop the squandering of taxpayers' dollars. We hope that the present generation of Californians — and others — will play a leading role in re-creating a rational, equitable and affordable federal pension system.

Hastings Keith represented what was then the 12th Massachusetts Congressional District, which included Cape Cod, from 1959 to 1973. He is co-chairman of the National Committee on Public Employee Pension Systems in Washington.

Hastings Keith's pension battle has been going on for a long time. It was quite a few years ago that he gathered some of his old friends among the Cape Cod news people at Mildred's Chowder House in Hyannis to tell them that federal pensions were running wildly out of control.

Mr. Keith's picture appeared in The New York Times just the other day. He was holding up for the Times cameraman a chart that he had made, showing the pension that he receives and the pension for an average government employee with 42 years of service. Mr. Keith's pension, for 14 years in the House, a representative from this district, and for wartime army service, is \$52,788 a year. And it increases automatically with annual cost-of-living adjustments.

"It's utterly irresponsible for Congress to give out raises every year and borrow money to pay for it," Mr. Keith told the Times.

Mr. Keith has a Yankee attitude towards money and an actuary's ability to understand and translate the complexities of the federal pension system.

Retired Congressmen make out better than other retired federal employees, about 25 percent better.

A third of the former members of the Congress receive more in annual

pension than they earned in their last active year of service.

Carl Albert received \$65,000 in annual salary when he retired as speaker of the House in 1977. Now he draws an annual pension of \$99,804. To date he has collected almost a million dollars in retirement pay.

Our former Congressman, Mr. Keith, is now co-chairman of the National Committee on Public Employee Pension Systems. This group would limit cost-of-living adjustments to the first \$11,000 of all federal pensions. Mr. Keith argues that this would cover the increasing costs of all the basics.

Applying the cost-of-living adjustment to the entire pension, Mr. Keith said, amounts to a "cost-of-luxury adjustment."

We don't know how much success Mr. Keith and his supporters have had. The pension system is still in place. We are sure that some minds have been changed.

The Times quoted a North Carolina member of the Congress, Howard Coble, who will not participate in the pension program.

"I know I'm not going to balance the budget by refusing it," he said, "but I think it is a taxpayer rip-off and it would be hypocritical for me to take it."

Garden Raiders

He had always heard, and observation had upheld it, that rabbits are the dimmest of the four-legged creatures indigenous to these parts. He wondered, though, how rabbits were getting into his garden if they were so dumb.

The chickenwire fence was better than knee-high; easily high enough, he was told, to keep out a rabbit. The fourth side of the garden was protected by an old stone wall. How was the rabbit — just one very bright rabbit, surely — getting to the bush beans and the lettuce?

The destruction was moderate; he'd seen what rabbits can do to an unfenced garden. Bean leaves had been stripped, but only down one row. Lettuces were munched in places, but not chewed to the ground. This was a discreet, perhaps finicky rabbit.

But how was it getting in? Not under the chickenwire; the gardener checked, and it was snug to the ground all around. Through the old stone wall? He found a hole that a rabbit might squirm through, and

The answer came one evening at sundown as he was enjoying the green view from his screen porch. A skunk, fat and lumbering, appeared at the far end of the lawn. He watched it plod uphill, bustling purposefully, to the wall that ran beside his garden. The skunk scabbled up the wall as easily as a cat would, chose its way along till it could look down into the garden, and jumped.

The mystery was solved, and rabbits, all of them, resumed their place of low esteem. Skunks seemed slightly enhanced. This one had figured out how to get around the chickenwire. Skunks, after all, are smart enough to understand the respect they command, and sensible enough to hold their fire when a mere threat is sufficient. Nothing, of course, comes up to racoons, which can climb chickenwire and trees, open trash cans, unlatch doors, and learn from their mistakes.

Our gardener friend has had to resign himself to the skunk's depredations. It could be worse. It could be

used to save sinners and store faith. Notable camp meeting sites, hosts to the sands of worshippers (mainly Methodists), were at Yarmouth Eastham and on the Vineyard at Cottage City, now known as Oak Bluffs.

In the 1800s the last Thursday in July was Picnic Day at the Yarmouth camp meeting in an oak grove still full of the "gingerbread" cottages, between Yarmouth and Hyannis. A booklet by Mrs. Caroline Siebans informs us: "Sometimes we overheard our elders relating in shock-tones that the night before the watchman had knocked on the door of a certain cottage because a company of young people were noisy and hilarious after 10 o'clock."

Shame. At a religious meeting, mind you, and long before the days (and nights) of Daylight Saving Time. At Eastham there were even worse goings-on. So much so that one historian sadly reported, "Most souls were made there that ever were saved." I know, it's easy to forget when you and I were young, Maggie. (My wife's name is Margaret, but don't jump to any conclusions.)

The island movement seems to have done somewhat better. They set up a driftwood plat-

Why Attend?

I would like to voice my opinion on the Falmouth Street Fair since I will be working July 25 and unable to attend the open meeting.

There is no doubt that traffic was horrendous, but the many months of advance notice of the fair couldn't one plan to do their Main Street business another day? I happened to be working on Shore Street that day, working a split shift which meant I had to make two round trips. The time involved traveling wasn't something I would like to do often, but I somehow managed one day.

Mr. Banks's opinion of the arts and crafts are just that — Mr. Banks's opinion. There were no so called "hucksters." Those who had stalls to show their crafts were pleasant to deal with and in no way did a "hard sell." I'm a "shopper" and thought prices fair. I think Mr. Banks gave little thought to the time and work involved when he referred to the handwork as trash.

If the street fair is so very offensive, why were there so

Cape Cod Times

FOI

Letter from a federal pensioner

*Inflation, oil and the
cost of public pensions*

By HASTINGS KEITH

What are the similarities between the "politics of oil" and the "politics of public pensions?" Both affect every man and woman in the United States. Both have been on the table for resolution for decades. And neither the president nor Congress has been willing to tackle either.

I tried to get Congress to move on the energy crisis while I was still



HASTINGS
KEITH

a congressman from Massachusetts. I tried to get Congress to move on the federal pension crisis after I retired. I rate the two equal in importance to all Americans. I was ignored on both.

I am concerned for the people of the United States. They are not being treated right by Congress' failure to develop a comprehensive national energy policy. They are also being bilked by a federal pension system that costs them too much.

The pension system is rigged to provide great benefits for the few at a great cost to the many. Meanwhile, the Northeast, heavily dependent upon imported oil, is left at the mercy of an international cartel over which they have no control.

Handsome rewards

Most who depend on Social Security supplemented by savings and small private pension plans will never enjoy the handsome rewards showered on federal pensioners like me. Our generation is being rewarded too much at the expense of the next.

More than 10 years ago, readers of this paper were shocked to learn my federal pensions had gone up to

Somebody must

put the brakes on

C.C. Times 4/16/2000

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this public pension
gravity train.

\$1,000 per week. Would you believe, with the start of this new century, they have more than doubled? I now get \$2,495 per week.

My combined civil/military pensions and Social Security benefits will reach \$129,720 by the end of this year. I contributed nothing toward my military pension and a mere \$32,786 to all the others. If I live out my life expectancy of six more years, I get even richer.

I have collected more than \$2 million in federal annuities. I'm starting on my third. Somebody must put the brakes on this public pension gravity train, which is propelled by the powerful engine of compounding Cost-of-Living Adjustments.

Multiple adjustments

These COLAs are not compounded on only one pension - as they should be - but on each and every one of them. The same is true for millions of other federal civil and military retirees who get more than one pension.

If the system is not reformed, it may well destroy the financial underpinnings of our nation. And this pension system is irrevocably linked to the price of oil!

Please see KEITH JG-5

Hastings Keith is a former member of Congress who represented southeastern Massachusetts, including the Cape and Islands. Visit his Web site at www.pensionco-las.com.

ONAL VOTE BOX

3 VOTED

ing Friday By Roll Call Report Syndicate
nedly
Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
ial: senator@kennedy.senate.gov

Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
ail john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov

se Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

IMENT Members failed, 234-192, to get
stitutional amendment requiring 2/3 ma-
to raise taxes. A yes vote OK'd the mea-
institutions for political will. (HJ Res 94)
William Delahunt, no.

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ence. A yes vote backed a bill providing
re at least 5 yrs. in prison when firearms
or major drug offense. (HR 4051)
William Delahunt, no.

assed, 220-208, a GOP-drafted budget
the year starting Oct. 1, it projects \$1.8
trillion-plus in revenue. A yes vote OK'd
ities, including tax cuts. (HCR 290)
William Delahunt, no.

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budget plan for fiscal 2001-05. A yes
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Edward Kennedy, no.
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John Kerry, yes.

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ix hike from the budget. (HCR 290)
Edward Kennedy, yes.
John Kerry, yes.

Keith: Federal pensions need paring

continued from G-1

A coalition of civil service/military retirees, their allies in Congress and current federal employees fight to keep things as they are. They've been determined to thwart even modest reform despite the ultimate consequences to our nation.

At one time, this coalition was the fifth largest Political Action Committee in the country. Given their connections to individual congressmen and women, and senators and congressional staff, I consider them the most powerful lobby in Washington.

A disquieting trend

They have made and un-made presidents, U.S. representatives and senators who dare challenge the status quo live in fear of their power. To me it is disquieting.

A knowledgeable look at our nation's long-term financial forecast should be as frightening to you as it is to me. In the 1980s, we projected the unfunded liability portion of our civil and military pension systems would rise to \$1.8 trillion.

Inflation leveled off in the 1990s and there is currently a "revenue surplus" waiting to spend. Does this mean the crisis in public pensions is over? The Congressional Budget Office, in its recently published "Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2001-2010", still projects pension fund obligations in the trillions.

These are annuities to be paid for federal pensions in the years ahead. The exact figure is \$2.35 trillion projected in the year 2010. They assume a steady inflation rate of only 2.5 percent.

"Automatic increases in (pension) benefits account for more than one-third of the growth in entitlement spending," according to the budget office. "All of the major retirement programs grant automatic Cost-of-Living Adjustments to their beneficiaries."

Tomorrow's costs

Federal employees and the military clamor for higher pay. So, too, do most state, county and municipal workers. The result of these across-the-board pay increases funded by today's tax dollars will ultimately be reflected in even higher pension benefits to be paid by tomorrow's taxpayers. Can we afford it? I think not. If we don't put realistic caps on these entitlements, they will have

were all others. Federal civil and military pensions were indexed to the rate of inflation.

Cash windfalls

That meant double-digit COLAs - great cash windfalls for double, triple and quadruple dippers who received multiple pensions - each one indexed separately as if they were for different people. One COLA should have been enough; and it should not have exceeded the maximum COLA allowed for Social Security annuitants.

The gusher of money flowed to us retirees because of unprecedented inflation rates that rose to almost 20 percent. Given our automatic indexation formula, it sent billions in COLAs to us retirees. Could it happen again? History indicates that it can.

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan warns that inflation could rise. Greenspan is keenly aware of the federal pension COLA scandal. He chaired a special Presidential task force that studied the entitlements and made recommendations that were finally discussed on a bi-partisan basis in Congress. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., who dared say we must change the way entitlement COLAs are based, is determined. Moynihan and Greenspan's conclusions are similar to mine and to those of the Grace Commission, the Kerry-Danforth Commission on Entitlements and every other objective study done on this complex issue.

Reasonable limits

Former Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill Jr. appointed Massachusetts Congressman Brian Donnelly to chair his task force on entitlements. Donnelly and I discussed the fact that Massachusetts was doing it right by not automatically indexing public pensions. Faced with mounting unfunded pension liabilities, the commonwealth determined reasonable and fair limits based above the

Please see PENSIONS JG-7

Summer Institute Begins May 9

The
art and the

Paying the price

In 1972-73, we paid the price. We ex-
perienced the worst "energy crisis" in
our history. Many on fixed incomes
and in the lower income brackets
were ruined financially.
Twenty-seven years later, we still
don't have a working national ener-

CONGRESSIONAL VOTE BOX

HOW YOUR LAWMAKERS VOTED

Votes for the week ending Friday By Roll Call Report Syndicate

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy
315 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543 or email: senator@kennedy.senate.gov
Sen. John F. Kerry
421 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2742 or email: john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov
Rep. William Delahunt
1317 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-3111

House

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT Members failed, 234-192, to get a supermajority for a constitutional amendment requiring 2/3 majority votes in Congress to raise taxes. A yes vote OK'd the measure over arguments it substitutes for political will. (HJ Res 94)
William Delahunt, no.

GUN VIOLENCE The House passed, 358-60, a bill using harsher sentences to fight gun violence. A yes vote backed a bill providing grants to states that require at least 5 yrs. in prison when firearms are used in a violent crime or major drug offense. (HR 4051)
William Delahunt, no.

2001 BUDGET Members passed, 220-208, a GOP-drafted budget for fiscal 2001 and later. In the year starting Oct. 1, it projects \$1.8 trillion in spending and \$2 trillion-plus in revenue. A yes vote OK'd a budget setting GOP priorities, including tax cuts. (HCR 290)
William Delahunt, no.

Senate

2001 BUDGET Voting 50-48, senators gave final congressional approval to a GOP-authored budget plan for fiscal 2001-05. A yes vote OK'd a plan that cuts taxes by \$150 billion-plus over 5 yrs. while using all Social Security surpluses for debt reduction. (HCR 290)
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John Kerry, no.

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Edward Kennedy, yes.
John Kerry, yes.

GORE ENVIRONMENT PLAN Senators killed, 99-0, a gas tax hike introduced by the GOP to finance Vice President Gore's 1992 call to phase out internal combustion engines over 25 yrs. A yes vote was to bar the alleged Gore tax hike from the budget. (HCR 290)
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Tomorrow's costs

Federal employees and the military clamor for higher pay. So, too, do most state, county and municipal workers. The result of these across-the-board pay increases funded by today's tax dollars will ultimately be reflected in even higher pension benefits to be paid by tomorrow's taxpayers. Can we afford it? I think not. If we don't put realistic caps on these entitlements, they will drive

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poverty level. It was started by Gov. Michael Dukakis, a Democrat, and continued through Republican Gov. William Weld's administration. It was fair and responsible.

It was similar to what I and other members of the National Committee on Public Employee Pension Systems (NCPETS) had recommended.

"We ought to do that, Mr. Keith," said Donnelly. But they never did. Now it appears the Massachusetts public pension system may be going the way of the federal system, which is downhill for the taxpayers who must foot the bill.

When O'Neill retired and came to his first meeting of Former Members of Congress, he made it a point to publicly state: "I haven't always agreed with Hastings Keith, but on this COLA thing, he's right!"

Waiting to explode

The public seems unaware that the crisis of unfunded pension liabilities is still waiting to explode. We continue to create a wind which can yet become a whirlwind of debt to be paid in the future. We federal retirees have become an elite class, collecting huge benefits which future taxpayers must pay. This is wrong.

Working middle-class taxpayers, who comprise most people in my old congressional district, are being forced to pay punitive taxes to keep federal annuitants in high clover. People who worked for relatively modest incomes all their lives will rely almost solely on Social Security when they retire. Some may have modest private pensions or annuities - none of which are indexed for inflation; none of which are increased by COLAs, compounded annually as are the federal pensions.

I didn't serve in the Army, the Massachusetts Legislature or the U.S. Congress to feast on oversized

Please see PENSIONS /G-7

Summer Institute Begins May 9

The art and the

This is a scan of a blank page from a document. The paper has a slightly off-white or cream color. There are some faint vertical lines and minor discolorations visible, likely due to the scanning process or the age of the paper. No text, figures, or tables are present on this page.

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Federal Reserve Board Chairman

Alan Greenspan wants that inflation to rise. He is aware of the federal pension COLA scandal. He chaired a special presidential task force that studied the settlements and made recommendations that were finally discussed on a bi-partisan basis in Congress.

system The losers

But the budget office fails to note and emphasize the compounding nature of these COLAs. Each year, the COLA is added to each base pen-

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Over-generous government pensions are already wreaking havoc with European nations that embraced reckless entitlement programs that their people can no longer afford.

The Congressional Budget Office expects those COLAs—all pegged to the consumer price indexes—to remain at 2.5 percent in 2000 and stay there for the next 10 years. I think that is unrealistic. But consider the cost even at this low inflationary rate: In the year 2000 alone, total payouts for programs with COLAs add up to more than \$335 billion.

"COLAs are projected to add an extra \$10 billion to that amount in 2001 and \$153 billion in 2010," the budget office reported to Congress.

Senate

2001 BUDGET Voting S0-48, senators gave final congressional approval to a GOP-authored budget plan for fiscal 2001-05. A yes vote OK'd a plan that cuts taxes by \$150 billion-plus over 5 yrs. while using all Social Security surpluses for debt reduction. (HCR 290)

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Edward Kennedy, yes.
John Kerry, yes.

A TIMES ANSWERS

AGE DITA POTLE CALL
KYS CHAIN BACLET LEAVE
A NEARLY CARRET LAYEN
A SWITOLERS RAINSTRES
LUELI RAMEET STRESS
A NINTS ONT HEAT ETTA
NE LEST ROVEN ARGOE
ENTALS REVEL STANED
GATES PAGES ACER9A
LIMES STTAR PORTHAY
ANEA SEVEN GAST JOE
RED MINTO GOSTE KOLA
A RAPEIS TWINE SNARIES
NONE WASTELAND
HUCKO LIVER FACI HAR
UPPEE CLEAN RECTIVE
NOR THE TWINKS NON

NEW YORK TIMES ANSWERS

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 RIND PABLS SINT DIXK
 RIND PABLS SINT DIXK
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



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
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**Congressman Hastings Keith, represented
South Shore, Cape; [RUN OF PAPER Edition]***Ryan Menard. The Patriot Ledger. Quincy, Mass.: Jul 22, 2005. pg. 16***Abstract (Summary)**

Keith helped bring million of dollars of federal aid to his district to help support housing, education, child care and the fishing industry. The federal building in New Bedford is named for him. In the early 1960s, when it was feared that pesticides used on his district's cranberry crop caused cancer, he insisted that the whole family drink nothing but cranberry juice. "The industry was up in arms, and farmers were afraid they were going to lose everything, but he supported them," his daughter said. He always kept a cooler of cranberry juice at his congressional offices, offering it to guests instead of water, she said. He chose not to run for reelection in 1972 while his wife battled cancer. Then, in 1992 at the age of 77, Mr.

Other available formats: Abstract**Find more documents like this:****People:**☐ Keith, Hastings

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Full Text (426 words)*Copyright Patriot Ledger Jul 22, 2005*

BROCKTON - Hastings Keith, 89, a former congressman who represented the South Shore and Cape Cod for 14 years, died Tuesday in his hometown of Brockton.

Mr. Keith made the leap from the insurance business to politics by winning a seat in the state Senate in 1952. He served there for four years and was elected to Congress in 1958. A Republican, he served in the U.S. House of Representatives until 1972.

He was among the first Republicans to support Medicare, helped lower the voting age to 18 and was instrumental in the creation of the National Seashore in his beloved Cape Cod.

Keith helped bring million of dollars of federal aid to his district to help support housing, education, child care and the fishing industry. The federal building in New Bedford is named for him. In the early 1960s, when it was feared that pesticides used on his district's cranberry crop caused cancer, he insisted that the whole family drink nothing but cranberry juice. "The industry was up in arms, and farmers were afraid they were going to lose everything, but he supported them," his daughter said. He always kept a cooler of cranberry juice at his congressional offices, offering it to guests instead of water, she said. He chose not to run for reelection in 1972 while his wife battled cancer. Then, in 1992 at

the age of 77, Mr. Keith rallied enough support to run again for his old seat against incumbent Gerry Studds but dropped out of the race because he needed heart surgery.

He was also known for his crusade for pension reform, and established the non-profit organization PEPS, Public Employee Pension Systems. He wrote a book in 2003 on the subject.

A World War II veteran, Mr. Keith served in the Army in Europe on Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's staff. He continued to serve for many years, eventually leaving the service as a lieutenant colonel.

Born in 1915, Keith was raised in Brockton and graduated from Brockton High School, Deerfield Academy and the University of Vermont in 1938.





He is survived by his wife, Barbara Clapp Keith; two daughters, Helen Harriman Keith Blake of Burlington, Vt., and Carolyn Keith Silvia of Bridgewater; a brother, Mark Keith of California; three grandsons; and many nieces and nephews.

He was the husband of the late Louise Harriman and the late Frances Bland Jackson, both of whom died of cancer.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Christ Congregational Church, 1350 Pleasant St., Brockton. Burial will be in Union Cemetery, Brockton.

Indexing (document details)

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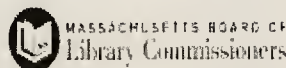
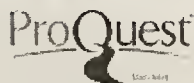
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


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**FORMER REP. HASTINGS KEITH; BILL LED
TO CAPE SHORE PARK; [THIRD Edition]***GLOBE STAFF. Boston Globe. Boston, Mass.: Jul 22, 2005. pg. A.15***Abstract (Summary)**

Mr. Keith was credited with helping to save the cranberry industry in the late 1950s, when a cancer scare over chemicals then used to grow cranberries caused the dumping of crops. After the crisis broke at Thanksgiving time, Mr. Keith and his family made a point of drinking cranberry juice for weeks, in an effort to show it was safe.

One of Mr. Keith's most significant accomplishments was a bill he cosponsored in 1961 to establish the Cape Cod National Seashore. With 43,604 acres of shoreline and dunes, including a 40-mile stretch of beach, the national park is now considered one of the gems of Massachusetts. The National Park Service presented a special award in 2002 honoring Mr. Keith's efforts.

Mr. Keith was also credited with bringing millions in federal funding to the New Bedford area, for housing, education, the fishing industry, and other initiatives. A federal building in New Bedford is named after Mr. Keith.


>> [Jump to indexing \(document details\)](#)**Full Text** (840 words)*Copyright New York Times Company Jul 22, 2005*

Hastings Keith, a Republican congressman who represented the Bay State for 14 years and helped create the Cape Cod National Seashore, died of pneumonia Tuesday in Brockton. He was 89.

After serving in the state Senate, Mr. Keith won election in 1958 to the House of Representatives for a district that encompassed the Cape and the Islands and south coastal areas such as New Bedford. It would be the first of seven terms.

Known by his colleagues as Hasty, Mr. Keith was considered a conservative Republican who tenaciously looked out for the interests of his constituents, mainly the fishing and agricultural industries of Southeastern Massachusetts.

He was one of the first Republicans to support Medicare and the idea that government should support those with health care needs.

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In a 1966 interview with the Globe, he recalled a day in 1959 when three officials from the Food and Drug Administration testified before a congressional hearing about how the government should censure cranberry growers for ignoring regulations. The men, he recalled, were sitting in front of a large "no smoking" sign.

"I'll never forget it," Mr. Keith recalled. "One of them was smoking a cigarette, another a cigar, and the third a big meerschaum pipe. I asked them if they had seen the sign. They looked up, and their arguments sort of dissolved."

His son-in-law, Paul Silvia of Bridgewater, said Mr. Keith's nickname was "the cranberry congressman." He always kept a cooler of cranberry juice at his congressional offices, offering it to guests instead of water.

One of Mr. Keith's most significant accomplishments was a bill he cosponsored in 1961 to establish the Cape Cod National Seashore. With 43,604 acres of shoreline and dunes, including a 40-mile stretch of beach, the national park is now considered one of the gems of Massachusetts. The National Park Service presented a special award in 2002 honoring Mr. Keith's efforts.

"I'm saddened to learn of Hastings' death, and my thoughts and prayers go out to his family," US Senator Edward Kennedy said in a statement. "We served together in Congress for 10 years when I first arrived in the Senate, and I learned a great deal from him."

"He did an outstanding job for the people of our state, and he'll always be remembered for his extraordinary leadership in establishing the Cape Cod National Seashore."

Mr. Keith was also credited with bringing millions in federal funding to the New Bedford area, for housing, education, the fishing industry, and other initiatives. A federal building in New Bedford is named after Mr. Keith.

His daughter, Carolyn Keith Silvia of Bridgewater, said she and her sister each have a unique piece of White House memorabilia: On two separate visits, their father broke a chair, the remnants of which he gave to them.

In 1972, after a redistricting removed his hometown of West Bridgewater from his district and with his wife, Louise, battling cancer, Mr. Keith chose not to run again. The seat was won by Gerry Studds, whom Mr. Keith had narrowly defeated in 1970.

The seat is now held by William D. Delahunt, a Democrat from Quincy.

After his years as an insider on Capitol Hill, Mr. Keith spent much of his time and energy battling government, specifically the issuing of large pensions to congressmen. He likened the benefits to "a gravy train" that threatened to hurtle out of control.

"We're embarrassed by our riches," said Mr. Keith, who accumulated four pensions for his posts in government.

In 2003, at age 87, his work culminated in the publication of a book, "Make It Fair! An Angry Call for Federal Pension Reform."

The second of five children, Mr. Keith grew up in a political family. His father, Roger, was mayor of Brockton, and their ancestors held government positions in Southeastern Massachusetts dating back to 1656.

He loved animals. In high school, his daughter said, he went on a trip through Europe, and when his parents picked him up at South Station, he was carrying two homing pigeons and 15 cents in his pocket.

Mr. Keith graduated from Brockton High School, Deerfield Academy, and the University of Vermont.

Mr. Keith graduated from the Command and General Staff School during World War II, and he served in the Army in Europe on General Dwight Eisenhower's staff.





Mr. Keith's first two wives, Louise Harriman and Frances Bland Jackson, died of cancer.

In addition to his daughter, Mr. Keith leaves his wife, Barbara C.; another daughter, Helen H. of Burlington, Vt.; a brother, Mark of California; and three grandsons.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Christ Congregational Church in Brockton. Burial will be in Union Cemetery in Brockton.

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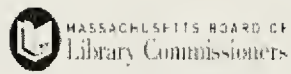
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Cape Cod Times

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Hastings Keith, who died July 19, was laid to rest in his hometown of Brockton yesterday. It was the final chapter in a life well lived.

"Hasty" represented our region for seven terms in the House of Representatives in Congress, having started his career in public service shortly after mustering out of the U.S. Army. He served on General Eisenhower's staff in Europe during WWII and served four years in the Massachusetts Senate when it was still a part-time, low-paid position. That left him free to build his family insurance business.

This old-fashioned Yankee, whose ancestors settled here in the 1600s, developed lasting friendships with memorable political figures. He was a principled maverick who took pride in the **Keith** Family motto: Veritas Vincit - truth conquers.

He believed public service to be a public trust and despised waste, fraud and deceit. At ease with the well to do, his real passion was caring for ordinary working men and women whom he genuinely admired because they worked hard, sacrificed, took care of their families and served the nation when it needed them. Their interests remained uppermost in his thinking. The rich would survive and live well. His worried about the well being of men and women who labored in the mills and factories that once flourished in his district. He fought hard for fishermen who risk death every time they go to sea. An inveterate sailor, he fought for the Coast Guard, which meant so much to his district.

Hasty loved poetry, history and tradition. Though 20 years my senior, we shared similar education backgrounds. We had teachers who drilled into our heads great literature, arithmetic, vocabulary and the ability to write a simple declarative sentence.

He was delighted when I would recite back to him refrains from great poems he learned by heart from his teachers decades before me.

While he came from a distinguished family, he saw their fortunes disappear during the Depression and experienced hardship. They survived. But he saw mill workers die from lack of medical care and near starvation during hard times when jobs were scarce and the mills closed. That is why he bucked his Republican Party to create Medicare to provide health care to those without resources.

This concern for working people led him to launch his last crusade to cap runaway pension costs which will saddle our children and grandchildren with enormous debt to take care of today's pensioners. He forced some reform but nothing approaching what he believed necessary.

Coming from the energy poor Northeast, the Congressman was also concerned about our dependence on foreign oil. After visiting Europe, Africa and the Middle East in 1972 he was disturbed by our growing reliance on dictators and corrupt monarchs who, as he wrote in his report to Congress, could shut off the flow of oil and drive inflation into double digits. He pleaded for a national energy policy to lessen this dependence. His report, "Over a Barrel," was ignored.

Months after he delivered his warning about OPEC's power came the Arab oil embargo. Our economy tanked. Twenty years later Congress is close to passing an energy bill.

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Hasty was a man who could see what was coming. Unlike those who put in their time and go along to get along, this old Yankee fought to prevent the dangers he foresaw.

He would speak with pride of his work to create the National Seashore, transfer Coast Guard Air Station to Cape Cod and save the cranberry industry. But he was nagged by his inability to win support for a national energy policy and pension reform to avoid bankrupting our grandchildren.

Few people who have served in public office can match **Hastings Keith** 's record. He did it not because it was politically advantageous but because "It was the right thing to do!"

I'll miss his wisdom, his sense of humor and his spirit of optimism for America.

Francis Broadhurst is a Cape Cod Times columnist. His column runs every other Thursday. Write him at 88 Stony Cliff Road, Centerville, MA 02632 or e-mail him at FIbcape@aol.com

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WEST BRIDGEWATER ✓

Passing through the beautiful town of West Bridgewater, a stranger is likely to have his attention attracted to an unusual building of ornate architecture, situated in the centre of the town, and ask what building it is. The answer will denote the age of the person, as older residents are likely to call it the Howard Collegiate Institute, a later generation the Howard Seminary, and still another the Howard High School. By these names the institution housed in this four-story building, surrounded by an attractive campus, has been called successively and, under whatever name, there has been a school held there continuously which has reflected much credit upon the town and carried out the intention of the generous founder, the late Benjamin B. Howard.

The school, housed in its handsome brick edifice, was opened October 2, 1883, an institution for girls and young women. The first principal was Miss Helen McGill, Ph. D. The donor, Captain Benjamin Beal Howard, a member of the famous Howard family which has always been prominent in the town for good citizenship, was born in the town of Bridgewater, in that part now called West Bridgewater, March 2, 1788. His ancestor, John Howard, the first of the Howards in Plymouth County, kept the first tavern, or "ordinary," in the town. Captain Howard kept the same tavern, the fifth generation to perform that public service, until the ancestral house was destroyed in 1838.

In his will appeared a clause giving to the town of West Bridgewater \$80,000, the income of which is to be used for the "establishment and support of a high school or seminary of learning to be called the Howard School." Ever since the school was founded it has grown in popularity, excellence and influence, as well as in the physical plant. There are at present several dormitories, and pupils come from all parts of the United States. The Howard High School for the boys and girls of West Bridgewater is conducted in connection with it.

Some of the most productive soil for farming in Plymouth County is located in West Bridgewater and several prosperous farms help furnish fruits and vegetables for Brockton and towns in the vicinity. The town is level, well watered, bounded on the north by Brockton, on the east by East Bridgewater, on the south by Bridgewater, and on the west by Easton in Bristol County.

West Bridgewater became a separate town February 16, 1822, previous to which date it was a part of Bridgewater and the central part of that ancient town. Soon after the incorporation of the town, an order of the court at Plymouth established a stone monument in the place where the Centre Tree formerly stood, marking the geographical

centre of Bridgewater. The bounds between West Bridgewater and North Bridgewater (now Brockton) were established January 26, 1825. In 1894 a part of West Bridgewater was annexed to Brockton. The present town has about 9,000 acres of land.

The Public Library was located in the Howard Collegiate Institute, as it was then called, when it was organized October 1, 1879. It is one of the present educational institutions of the town which is duly appreciated by the townspeople.

On the highway leading from Brockton to Cape Cod is the town square, in the centre of which is a handsome soldiers' monument. This was dedicated July 4, 1879. Near the centre, adjoining the campus of the Howard Seminary, is the First Church building. Captain Benjamin Beal Howard, who bequeathed \$80,000 for the establishment of the Howard Seminary, also bequeathed \$20,000, the income of which is applied to the support of Unitarian or liberal preaching in this church. The first meeting-house was erected in West Bridgewater about 1660 and was built of logs.

The Rev. James Keith was the first minister ordained in this town. This was in 1664, twelve years after the first settlement was made. It appears that they found it difficult to support a minister before this time. Mr. Keith was from Scotland, and was educated at Aberdeen. He came to Boston about 1662, and was introduced to the church at Bridgewater by Dr. Increase Mather, an early president of Harvard College. The descendants of Mr. Keith are numerous. He died in 1719, aged seventy-six. He was succeeded by Rev. Daniel Perkins, who was ordained in 1721, and died in 1782. The next minister was Rev. John Reed, D. D., who was ordained as colleague with Mr. Perkins in 1780.

First Settlement Away from the Coast—The grant of the Bridgewater plantation was in 1646, as stated elsewhere, and the settlement made in 1650. The following were the first permanent settlers of West Bridgewater: Thomas Hayward, Nathaniel Willis, John Willis, William Bassett, John Washburn, John Washburn, Jr., John Ames, Thomas Gannett, William Brett, John Cary, Samuel Tompkins, Arthur Harris, John Fobes, Experience Mitchell, John Howard, and Solomon Leonard.

The first settlers had a house-lot of six acres each on the town river, and the place was called Nuckatest, or Nuncketettest. The first lots were taken up at West Bridgewater; first houses built and the first improvements made there. The settlement was compact, the house-lots being contiguous, with a view for mutual protection and aid against the Indians. As a further protection from the natives, they erected a stockade or garrison on the south side of the river and fortified many

of their dwellings. From this original home the settlers scattered into other portions of the town, extending their dwellings first into the south part of the town, toward Nippenicket pond, on the road to Taunton, where they were in the habit of going to mill on foot, with the grists upon their backs, a distance of several miles.

The West Parish was never incorporated by an Act of the Legislature, but the parochial affairs were for many years transacted by the old town. It was incorporated as West Bridgewater, February 16, 1822.

On June 3, 1856, the four Bridgewaters united in celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the old town.

The first interior settlement in Plymouth County was about where West Bridgewater is located. According to an old record, at the time of King Philip's War the inhabitants "were strongly advised and solicited to desert their dwellings and repair down to the towns on the sea-side," but they erected a stockade on the south side of the river, fortified some of their dwellings, and resisted numerous attacks resolutely. On one occasion thirteen houses and four barns were burned. There is a tradition that during the war every house except one in the town of Bridgewater was burned.

According to a record of the Massachusetts Historical Society:

A few weeks previous to the death of Philip, the inhabitants of the town being alarmed at some appearance of the enemy, they immediately pressed Comfort Willis and Joseph Edson to go post to the governor, to give information. Captain Church, with his company, was immediately sent to their assistance. About twenty men from Bridgewater, while on the road to meet Captain Church, came upon the enemy, and fought them, and took seventeen alive, and also much plunder, without losing a man. They joined Captain Church next day, and soon captured and killed 173 Indians. These prisoners were conveyed into the town pound at night, and an Indian guard set over them. They were well treated with victuals and drink, and had a merry night; and the prisoners laughed as loud as the soldiers, not having been so well treated for a long time. The next day Captain Church arrived safe at Plymouth, with all the prisoners. Notwithstanding the many dangers of this war, and the great number of the Bridgewater people engaged in it, it is a remarkable circumstance that not one of the inhabitants was killed.

The first person who fell in battle from this place was John Snell, who was killed in the old French War. The second was Captain Jacob Allen, who was killed at the capture of Burgoyne.

WHITMAN

The Town and the Man—Someone has said of Brockton, the next neighbor of Whitman on the west:

Brockton stands with its back to the wall of Norfolk and Bristol counties and with the town of Whitman as its front yard. The first electric street railway ever constructed connected the centre of Brockton with the edge of Whitman

WEST BRIDGEWATER. ✓

Although one of the towns last incorporated in Plymouth County, West Bridgewater is, nevertheless, an early English settlement; in fact it was the first interior settlement of Plymouth colony, and showed marks of civilization more than two hundred and twenty years ago.

Remaining a part of ancient Bridgewater as it did, from 1651 to 1822, a period of one hundred and seventy-one years, its date of incorporation as a new and distinct town causes it to rank as the youngest in the county, save East Bridgewater, Lakeville, Marion and Mattpoisett.

The history of West Bridgewater is, therefore in fact, nearly all a part of the history of ancient Bridgewater.

At the commencement of the settlement, each settler had a house lot of six acres near the river, then called "Nunketst," which name for a long time was applied to the settlement itself.

Rev. James Keith was their first minister. He was from Scotland; and came to Boston in or about 1662, and was ordained at Bridgewater in 1664. Died in 1719 aged 76; must have been born in or about 1643.

This was the first interior settlement in Plymouth County, and its early inhabitants were called on to encounter many and repeated dangers and troubles incident to Indian warfare. During King Philip's war, 1675 and 1676, they displayed great resolution and intrepidity. Surrounded as they were by the savage foe, and strongly advised and solicited to leave their dwellings and to repair to the towns at the seaside, they, however, resolutely held their ground, and successfully defended the settlement and encouraged and assisted some other towns to do likewise.

On the south side of the river they erected and maintained a stockade, and there kept a small garrison. They also fortified several of their dwellings.

Sunday, April 9th, 1676, they received a visit from the Indians who burned one house and a barn, broke into, and rifled several other houses, but fled as soon as pursued.

May 8, 1676, the Indians, about three hundred in number, led by Tispaquin, the noted chieftan of Middleborough, paid the people of Bridgewater a second visit, making an assault upon the east end of the town, set fire to many of the English dwellings, but, as said the old chronicle, "the inhabitants issuing from their houses, fell upon them so resolutely

that the enemy were repelled and a heavy shower of rain falling at the same time, the fires were soon extinguished."

This was on the south side of the river, and failing in their attempts in that direction, the Indians now repaired to the north side of the stream, where the attack was renewed, but they were again driven off after burning two houses and one barn.

Houses upon the outskirts of the town, deserted by their owners, fell a prey to the Indian's torch, by which fourteen houses four barns, including those in the village, were destroyed.

Sometime, during the summer of 1676, Capt. Benjamin Church, with a body of soldiers, were sent to aid in this defence, and twenty Bridgewater men going out to meet Capt. Church, came upon a band of Indians, of whom they captured seventeen together with considerable plunder. The next day, as a part of captain Church's command, they participated in conquering a tribe of one hundred and seventy-three Indians. These Indian prisoners were taken to Bridgewater, and confined in the town-pound.

The old chronicle adds, concerning the Indian captives:

"They were well treated with victuals and drink, and the prisoners laughed as loud as the soldiers, not having been so well treated for a long time."

Tradition informs us that not a single Bridgewater man was slain in that war, nor in any other in which the county had engaged, until they were called upon to participate in the "Old French War," so called, 1745, when John Snell, of Bridgewater, fell in battle.

In the war for Independence, viz., at the capture of Burgoyne, Capt. Jacob Allen, of Bridgewater, was slain.

Comfort Willis, the Bridgewater "Trooper," who figured so conspicuously in "King Philip's War," is said to have kept a diary of those stirring events, as the same were occurring. He was the ancestor of Judge Samuel Willis, of Dartmouth, now New Bedford. Samuel Willis was Colonel * of the Second Regiment, Bristol County Militia, in the time of the "Old French War," 1745, and 1746. His son, Ebenezer

* The local militia of Bristol County were then organized into three Regiments of which Dr. Thomas Bowen was Colonel of the 1st, Samuel Willis, Dartmouth, Colonel of the 2nd, and George Leonard, of Norton, Colonel of the 3rd. A few years later, Daniel Carpenter, of Rehoboth, succeeded Dr. Bowen, as Colonel. Ezra Richmond of Dighton, succeeded Colonel Willis, and Ephraim Leonard succeeded his brother, George Leonard.

Willis, was Major of the same regiment, just before the breaking out of the Revolutionary War.

* A lineal descendant, named Samuel Willis, was Adjutant of the same Regiment, about the time of the "Shay's Rebellion."

Hon William Baylies, distinguished for his ability as a lawyer, (although a native of Dighton,) resided in West Bridgewater, for many years.

Justices of the Peace, West Bridgewater.

Jonathan Snow, Jan. 7, 1824; Samuel Dunbar, Feb. 17, 1824; Jonathan Copeland Jr., June 10, 1825; William Baylies, Jan. 7, 1826; John E. Howard, March 2, 1826; Abiezer Alger, Jan. 2, 1828; Austin Packard, March 4, 1828; Daniel Howard, Dec. 3, 1828; Zephaniah Howard, Feb. 28, 1829; Ellis Ames, March 5, 1835; Linus Howard, June 28, 1836; Jonathan Ames, April 13, 1843; Abial Packard, April 13, 1843; Elijah Smith, April 13, 1843; Dwelley Forbes, Jan. 4, 1848; Joseph Kingman, Feb. 6, 1851; Samuel D. Keith, Dec. 6, 1853; James Howard, William H. Jennings.

Names of West Bridgewater men who died for their country, in the late war.

Second Regiment, John B. Dunbar.

Third Regiment, George Colwell,

Seventh Regiment, under Colonel Darius Couch, Henry Quintley.

Ninth Regiment, under Col. Cass, Patrick Cunningham, Co. K.

Twelvth Regiment, under Webster, Timothy O'Kary.

Twenty Sixth Regiment, John B. Gould, Grenville Howard, Lyman E. Howard, Francis Lothrop.

Twenty Ninth Regiment, under Colonel Ebenezer W. Peirce, Myron E. Alger, Chas. H. Hayden, Chas. H. Turner.

Fortieth Regiment, Charles H. Parker, Asa F. Shaw.

Fifty Eighth Regiment, under Colonel Whiton, Leonard Jones, Henry M. Folsom, Eustace Howard, Hector O. Kingman.

* When the Second Regiment was reorganized to meet the emergencies of the "Shay's War," soon after the close of the Revolution, George Claghorn, of New Bedford, was commissioned as Colonel, Benjamin Weaver, of Freetown, Lieut Colonel, Robert Earl, of Westport, Major, Samuel Willis, Dartmouth, Adjutant, and William Almy, Quarter-master. Col. George Claghorn was naval constructor of the frigate Constitution, or "Old Ironsides," as sometimes called. Lieut. Col. Weaver was born in Freetown, June 25, 1775; died in Freetown, April 23, 1838. He was grandfather to the writer of this article.

Fifty Ninth Regiment, Michael McMurphy.
 First Cavalry, Roscoe Tucker.
 Second Cavalry, Alvan R. Coffin.
 In the Navy, James E. Jacobs, James E. Ryan, William Dewyre.
 Recapitulation. 2d Regiment, 1; 3d, 1; 7th, 1; 9th, 1; 12th, 1; 26th, 4; 29th, 3; 40th, 2; 58th, 4; 59th, 1; 1st Cavalry, 1; 2d, Cavalry, 1; Navy, 4. Total, 25.

TOWN OFFICERS, 1873-4.

At the annual meeting, James Howard, Moderator, Austin Packard was chosen Town Clerk; Selectmen, James Howard, Davis Copeland, Samuel N. Howard; Treasurer and Collector, George M. Pratt; School Committee, Perez P. Field, Heman Copeland and Miss Irene S. Wood, for 3 years, Eli Wheeler, for one year; Constables, Eli Wheeler, Thomas P. Ripley. The town voted, 45 to 70, not to accept the act relating to road commissioners. Nahum Packard, W. H. Jennings and Bradford Packard were chosen a committee on the part of the town to procure lecturers in accordance with the terms of the Howard fund, with instructions not to exceed the sum of twenty-five dollars for any one lecture. Highways, \$2,500, new roads, \$500, schools \$3000. school house repairs \$200, incidentals, 1200, support of the poor, \$800, lectures \$100,—total \$8,300.

First Congregational (Unitarian) Church. Rev. Frank P. Hamblett, Pastor.

Methodist Episcopal Church, (Cochesett), Organized 1829. Present Church erected, 1844.

Baptist Church, Cochesett Village.

Silver Wave Lodge, No. 134. I. O. G. T. Cochesett Village. Instituted January 5, 1870.

Population in 1870, 1,803.

Residence of Hon. E. S. Keith, Sagamore, Mass.



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